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LOST SUNSHINE.

Our house is emptied of delight;
It is no more the house of joy
That once shone with his presence bright,
That echoed to his laughter light,
His bounding step upon the stair,
His joyous accents everywhere—
It is no more our home, without our boy.

All's gloom, although the sunbeams glow
On yonder churchyard tomb and cross
(So near, so far!) and silence, though
His brothers' footsteps come and go,
And voices, that are dear to me
(As living voices e'er can be),
Too young to know the greatness of their loss.

Ah, room wherein our dear one lay!
As sacred as the sacred fane
Wherein he loved to kneel and pray—
The good seed ripened day by day,
I watched it in the ear, the blade;
And when upon his death-bed laid,
He reaped the harvest of God's golden grain!

Oh, manly form that never more
Shall swell this yearning heart with pride!
Oh, kindly face that always wore
Its best for me!—I watch the door,
Half hopeful; though the window gaze;
My sorrow gives me much amaze,
At times I have to whisper: "No, he died."

The landscape now has lost its charm,
The home view he was wont to prize,
(Ah, how he loved each field and farm!)
The very air now lacks its balm;
The pulse of cars upon the lake
Is silent; and his gun can wake
No echo; and ever hides our skies.

Yet dwells he in some heavenly home
Far fairer; and about him lie
The plains of heaven. Let us come
In Thy good time, where grief is dumb;
Not with us, Lord, who lack speech
The depth of our distress to reach,
But where Thou wip'st the tears from every eye.

My boy, my Bayard, without stain,
Whom the world loved, yet soiled;
We would not have you know our pain,
Else you would feel it; but would fain
Still think (forgive us, though you be
In Jesus's bosom, that you and we
Have yet some bond of sympathy.
That somehow, sweet, we are not quite forgot.

MARCH.

An American journal is hardly orthodox unless it publishes Bryant's "March" on every recurrence of the month. We have inadvertently omitted it for two or three years.

The stormy March is come at last,
With wind, and cloud and changing skies;
I hear the rushing of the blast,
That through the snowy valley flies.

Ah, passing few are they who speak,
Wild, stormy month in praise of thee;
Yet though thy winds are loud and bleak,
Thou art a welcome friend to me.

For thou, to northern lands, again
The glad and glorious sun dost bring,
And thou hast joined the gentle train
And wear'st the gentle name of Spring.

And, in thy reign of blast and storm,
Smiles many a long, bright sunny day,
When the changed winds are soft and warm,
And heaven puts on the blue of May.

Then sing aloud the gushing rills,
In joy that they again are free,
And bris kly leaping down the hills,
Begin their journey to the sea.

The year's departing beauty hides
Of wintry storms the sullen threat;
But in the sternest frown abides
A look of kindly promise yet.

Thou bring'st the hope of those calm skies,
And that soft time of sunny showers,
When the sad earth, as if it felt the kiss
Seem of a brighter w rld than ours.

THE FATAL CARD.

Some years ago the Mississippi river was famous for its floating palaces, as the large steamers plying between New Orleans and the ports above, were called. Now the railroads have driven nearly all the fine boats off the river, and left the "floating palaces" to freight boats, whose accomodation for passengers are by no means palatial. The former class of steamers were in many respects delightful, but they never ceased to be the objects of dread to timid people, for if the racing, which on that stream was reduced to a system, did not result in the loss of the boat, there was sure to be one or more encounters between the more lawless portion of the travelers, in which pistol bullets would fly rather too thick for the comfort of steady going people. The cause for such disturbance was generally a quarrel over a gaming table. The regulations of the boats usually required that all such amusements should be conducted in a saloon provided for that purpose in the "Texas," "officer's cabin," situated on the hurricane deck, but the sporting gentlemen were by no means careful to observe this rule, and the gaming was most commonly carried on at the dining table, in the main saloon on the steamer, to the great annoyance of two thirds of those on board.

Many professional gamblers used to make these boats their home, living on board and forth with them, fleecing all who were foolish and verdant enough to fall into their hands. So well, indeed, was the system managed, that the various members seemed to have their different steamers marked out for them by common consent, so that no one would trespass upon the domain of the other. Of course these men were warm friends of the officers of the boat, who were either too sincere in their friendship to put a stop to the practice, or too much afraid of the gamblers to care to provoke a quarrel with them, for in those days it was common affair for such men to resent any fancied insult with a pistol shot.

One of the most remarkable men of this class was named Daniel Sturdivant, a Frenchman, the son of a broken down scion of nobility who had settled in New Orleans before the transfer of Louisiana to the United States. Sturdivant had been raised a "gentleman" by his aristocratic father, but on coming of age, and finding his fortunes very bad, had taken to cards as a means to better them. His success in this field was so great that he was induced to continue it, until at the time of which I write he was one of the most notorious gamblers between St. Louis and New Orleans. He was a man of fine personal appearance, and of great physical strength. He was also noted for his personal courage. As a gambler he was most expert and successful. There were dark stories of deeds which he had committed while under the influence of play and liquor, and it was said by some that he had killed half a dozen men in his life-time. Yet no one dared to speak of these stories openly, for to do so was sure to bring upon himself the anger of such a man. There were few that know him that really cared to play against him, but they learned that a refusa to do so might involve a challenge to quarrel with him, and rarely declined his invitation.

About fifteen years ago, the time of which I write, he had attached himself to one of the magnificent steamers plying between New Orleans and Vicksburg, and had publicly announced his determination to shoot any man who encroached upon his scene of operations. Of course this left him in undisputed possession of the field; and he reaped a golden harvest during the one brief year he conducted his operations there.

It was my lot at that time to be compelled to make frequent trips between New Orleans and Vicksburg, being heavily engaged in cotton speculations. I preferred the steamer of which Sturdivant had taken possession inasmuch as it was not only the most comfortable, but also the swiftest, and time was of the utmost importance to me. It was known that I carried large sums of money, and I was always apprehensive lest Sturdivant should ask me to play. I had made up my mind to refuse him, and if he attempted to draw me into a quarrel, to shoot him without mercy, as I knew that the only chance of my life lay in getting the advantage of him. Strange to say, he did not make any such proposition to me, and I gave him no chance to do so.

One night we had started out from Vicksburg, and were heading merrily down the river, when Sturdivant came to the group which had gathered around the stove. He had been drinking, and was smoking a fine cigar as he approached. All made way for him.

"Well, gentlemen," said in an unsteady tone, "you seem to be terribly dull. Who wants to play for twenty thousand dollars?"

There was no reply. All present seemed to know the man, and no one cared to volunteer to place himself in his clutches.

"Umph!" he exclaimed with an expression of contempt, "afraid to try your luck with Daniel Sturdivant, eh? Or may be you want a coaxing. Some of you must play with me, I can't stand such treatment. Come, let's see who it shall be."

He glanced around the crowd as if to select his victim. For the first time I noticed the gaze of one of the group fixed steadily upon him. He was a stranger to me, and was dressed in a plain homespun, and his face was partially concealed by a broad-brimmed sombrero which was drawn down over it. He was a small but powerfully made man, and in the decided expression of his well-shaped head I read an unusual firmness and intensity of purpose.

"Are you Daniel Sturdivant, the gambler?" he asked in a calm tone without rising.

Sturdivant flushed darkly, and gave the stranger a dark glance.

"Some persons call me so behind my back," he said insolently, "but no one would care to apply that term to me before my face."

"Nevertheless," said the stranger, quietly, "I want an answer—yes or no."

"Well, then, I am," said the gambler, angrily, "what of it?"

"Simply this," replied the stranger, "I have heard it said that you claim to be the best card player in the southwest. I have come two hundred miles to prove you a liar." Sturdivant strode forward a step or two, and thrust his hand into his breast, as if to grasp a weapon.

"Stop," said the stranger, "if you shoot me you will simply prove yourself afraid of me. Take your seat at the table and I will make my words good."

There was something in the calm, stern manner of the stranger that seemed to render the gambler powerless. He hesitated a moment, and then said, bullyingly:

"I never play with a man whose face I cannot see."

"Never mind my face." said the stranger "if you are not afraid of losing you shall see it when I am done with you."

"But how do I know that you have money for such sport?" persisted Sturdivant. "You look seedy enough, my fine fellow."

"There," said the stranger, "I have ten thousand dollars there. If you can win it you shall do so."

With an oath Sturdivant placed himself at the table and bade his challenger to do likewise. Those of us who had listened to this singular dialogue now gathered around the table, expecting to see a scene of more than usual interest. The stranger had not raised his hat-brim, and none of us had seen his face but we all felt from his general air and manner that Daniel Sturdivant had at last met his match. It did not take long to show us that the strange was an unusually good player. For an hour or more the playing went on in silence. The stakes were high and the contest marked with rare skill. Sturdivant exerted himself as he had never done before, but in spite of all his efforts he lost steadily. By the expiration of the time indicated above he had lost ovey two thousand dollars. I noticed the flush upon his face deepen and a strange light come into his eyes. At last, with an exclamation of triumph he drew toward him the heap of notes.

"That was well done," said the stranger, "you are an expert in cheating. But go on, I can beat you whether you play openly or dishonestly."

Sturdivant was nothing, but dealt the cards again. The hand played, and Sturdivant was about to seize the stakes again, when the stranger laid down a card and checked him.

The gambler uttered a sharp cry and sat motionless with his eyes fixed on the card; a worn and faded "ace of hearts," with a dark stain across the face. Sturdivant's face worked convulsively as he gazed at it, and the spectators gathered more closely around the two, wondering at the strange scene.

"Look at me," said the stranger, quietly.

As if powerless to resist, Sturdivant raised his eyes to the speaker.

The stranger had raised his hat and sat looking at the trembling man with eyes which fairly blazed with fury. Sturdivant uttered a groan and sank back in his chair with his face white and rigid. The stranger with one sweep gathered the money from the table and thrust it in his bosom.

"The ace of hearts is an unlucky card for you, Daniel Sturdivant," he said coolly.

"You played it once when you thought it to your advantage. Now, God help you, for that play is returned."

As he spoke he raised a pistol which we had not seen, and before we could stop him aimed it deliberately at the trembling man and fired. The gambler fell heavily upon the table a corpse; and the bright blood streamed over it, hiding the fatal card from sight.

"Gentlemen," said the stranger, rising to his feet as we stood paralyzed with horror, at the dreadful scene; "that man ruined my wife and tried to murder me. I have been hunting him ten years."

He walked slowly by us down the stairway to the lower deck. Just then, as the steamer touched at a landing, he sprang ashore and vanished in the dark woods.

I never learned the history of the mysterious affair, for the dead gambler was beyond human questioning; and I never saw the stranger again; but I shall not soon forget the impression made upon me at the time.

COFFEE.

How it is Grown and Gathered---An Interesting Sketch of a Brazilian Plantation.

[From "A Journey in Brazil," by Agassiz.

The next day was that of our departure. Before leaving we rode with Mr. Lage through the plantation, that we might understand something of the process of coffee culture in his country. I am not sure that, in giving an account of this model fazenda, we give a just idea of fazendas in general. Its owner carries the same large and comprehensive spirit, the same energy and force of will, into all his undertakings, and has introduced extensive reforms on his plantations. The Fazenda de Fortalere de Santa Anna lies at the foot of the Sierra de Babylonia. The house itself, as I have already said, makes a part of a succession of low white buildings, inclosing an oblong square divided into neat lots destined for the drying of coffee.

This drying of the coffee in the immediate vicinity of the house, though it seems a very general custom, must be an uncomfortableone; for the drying lots are laid down in a dazzling white cement, from the glare of which, in this hot climate, the eye turns wearily away, longing for a green spot on which to rest. Just behind the house, on the slope of the hill, is the orangery. I am never tired of these golden orchards, and this was one of especial beauty. The small, deep colored tangerines, sometimes twenty or thirty in one cluster; the large choice orange, "Laranja selecta," with its smooth rind, often ten or twelve together in a single bunch, and bearing the branches to the ground with their weight; the paler "Limao doce," or sweet lemon, rather insipid, but most refreshing to the cool, refreshing properties—all these, with many others—for the variety of oranges is far greater than we of the temperate zone conceive it to be—make a study of color, in which gold, deep orange, and pale yellow, are blended wonderfully with the background of green.

Beyond the house inclosure, on the opposite side of the road, are the gardens and the aviary, and fish ponds in the valley. With these exceptions, all of the property which is not forest is devoted to coffee, covering all the hillsides for miles around. The seed is planted in nurseries especially set apart for the purpose, until its first year's growth. It is then transplanted to its permanent home, and begins to bear in about three years, the first crop being, of course, a very light one. Under favorable ward, under good care, and with favorable soil, it will continue to bear, and even to yield two crops or more annually, for thirty years in succession. At that time the trees and the soil are alike exhausted, and, according to the custom of the country the fazendeiro cuts down a new forest and begins a new plantation, completely abandoning his old one, without a thought of redeeming or fertilizing the exhausted land.

One of the long-sighted reforms undertaken by our host is the manuring of all the old, deserted plantations on his estate: he has already a number of vigorous young plantations which promise to be as good as a virgin forest had been sacrificed to produce them, and wishes not only to preserve the wood on his own estate, and to show that agriculture need not be cultivated at the expense of taste or beauty, but to remind his countrymen that as mines are limited, as are the forests, they will not last forever, and that it will be necessary to immigrate before long to find new coffee grounds, if the old ones are to be preserved. Another of his reforms is that of the roads, already alluded to. The ordinary roads in the coffee plantations, like the mule tracks all the country, are carried straight up the sides of the hills between the lines of shrubs, gullied by every rain, and offering, besides so steep an ascent that even with eight or ten oxen it is often quite impossible, for the sliding, heavy, cylindrical carts up the slope, and the negroes are obliged to bring a great part of the harvest down on their heads.

An American, who has been a great deal on the coffee fazendas in this region, told me that he had seen negroes bringing enormous burdens of this kind on their heads down almost vertical slopes. On the Senator's estate, old bullock carts are abandoned, except where they are planted here and there with alleys of orange trees for the use of the negroes, and he has substituted for them winding roads in the side of the hill with a very gradual ascent, so that light carts dragged by a single mule can transport all the harvests from the summit of the plantation to the drying-ground. It was the harvesting season, and the spectacle was a pretty one. The negroes, men and women, were scattered about the plantations with broad shallow trays made of plaited grass or bamboo, strapped over their shoulders and supported at their waists; into these they were gathering the coffee, some already beginning to dry and turn brown, while here and there was a green one not yet quite ripe, but soon to ripen in the scorching sun. Little black children were sitting on the ground and gathering what fell under the bushes, singing at their work a monotonous but rather pretty bunch of songs, in which some took the first and others the second, making a not inharmonious music. As their baskets were filling they came to the administrator to receive their metal tickets on which the amount of their work was marked. A task is allotted to each one—so much to a full grown man, so much to a woman with young children, or to a child—and each one is paid for whatever he may do over and above it. The requisition is a very moderate one, so that the industrious have an opportunity of making a little money independently.

At night they all present their tickets and are paid on the spot for any extra work. From the harvesting ground we followed the carts down to the place where their contents is deposited. On their return from the plantation, the negroes divide the day's harvest, and dispose it in little mounds on the drying ground. When pretty equally dried, the coffee is spread out in thin, even layers over the whole inclosure, where it is baked for the last time. It is then hulled by a very simple machine in use on almost all the fazendas, and the process is complete. At noon we bade good-by to our kind hosts, and started for Juiz de Fora. Our stage was not a bad imitation of Noah's ark, for we carried with us the beasts of the field, and the birds of the air, and the fishes from the waters, to say nothing of the trees from the forest.

Execution of a Confessed Murderer.

Joseph Eisele, *alias* John Shafer, the murderer of Lilienthal, Teutar and Ulric, and the would-be murderer of Major White, all of Parkersburg, was hanged Friday evening, in a field adjoining the northwestern pike, about two miles out of Parkersburg. The weather was cloudy and wet, and the roads knee deep with mud. Notwithstanding this a crowd of both sexes, of over five thousand—a few mounted or riding in wagons—were there to see the execution of one of the most cold-blooded murderers known in the annals of crime. The prisoner, escorted by his confessor, Father Park, arrived at the scaffold about 12:30 p. m. He made no address but handed to a friend a written confession, which is to be published. He maintained a calm and stolid manner, and ascended the gallows with a firm step, showing a determined countenance and presence. The drop fell at 1 o'clock, and life was pronounced extinct twelve minutes after. He did not struggle, and but for an occasional slight tremor and uplifting of the hands one would suppose death instantaneous. The ground was kept clear by two companies of militia. The behavior of the assembly was quiet and orderly, belitting so solemn an occasion.

A ST. LOUIS correspondent of the Springfield *Republican* writes: The annual report of the State finances shows a recuperation that could hardly have been expected soon after the devastation of war and a disordered social condition. Three years ago the State debt was $37,000,000. Now it is $25,941,000, with a semi-annual interest of $700,740, with perhaps a million at the Treasury. To offset this, the Pacific Railroad owes the State $11,000,000, and is ready to give $4,000,000 for the State lien at any time, but the Legislature thinks it worth $8,000,000.

James Brith was shot and killed near Waverly, Tennessee, a few days ago, by some unknown party.

IS PRESIDENT JOHNSON INSANE?

Whisky or Opium?

The New York *Sun* has started a curious speculation accompanied with some singular statements touching Mr. Johnson and the cause of his conduct. It starts out with saying that "the explanation of his eccentricities may be found, short of the conviction that he is guilty of a deliberate, wilful, wicked attempt to overthrow the Government," which explanation "is furnished by the theory that he is, and long has been partially INSANE." This is the plea which, as a last resort, is usually put in behalf of persons accused of crime, and as often with success as any other. It is not, however, to clear Mr. Johnson on unreal grounds that the *Sun* has suggested insanity as the explanation of his conduct. It refers to what it regards as facts going to establish the probability that he has for some time been and is now partially insane. Such parts of the *Sun's* article as bear on this point we quote:

With the extraordinary spectacle presented on the occasion of Mr. Johnson's inauguration as Vice President, the world is familiar. Our own citizens, as well as the representatives of foreign Governments who were present, looked upon it with astonishment. But there prevails almost universally, outside of those who were eye witnesses, a mistaken notion of the circumstances of that event. According to the most trustworthy evidence, Mr. Johnson was not—as he is generally supposed to have been—intoxicated when he took the oath of office and made his inauguration speech. Gen. Banks and other distinguished public men, who were very near to him, and had the best possible opportunity of seeing everything that passed, have stated that the manner of Mr. Johnson gave no indications whatever that he had been drinking. This fact only increased the surprise and wonder at his most inappropriate and incoherent remarks. The late Preston King said that he had been with Mr. Johnson that day, and that Mr. Johnson had taken but a single glass of wine; he was sure of this; he had been so constantly in his presence that Mr. Johnson could not have taken more without his knowing it. *Mr. King said that Mr. Johnson's mind was impaired by the great excitement to which he had been subjected;* and that was the reason that a single glass of wine affected him so much. But, as we have stated, others, who were very near him, saw no effect of the wine upon his manner or delivery at all.

His speech of February 22, 1866, from the steps of the White House, in which he characterized Mr. Forney as a "dead duck" seemed too low a piece of buffoonery to emanate from a sane President. But that afforded much less clear evidence of insanity than his denunciation of Charles Sumner and Thaddeus Stevens as men who sounht to compass his death by *assassination*." This was clearly an illusion; this was unmistakably insanity.

About the time that this occurred, and for some time afterwards, there was a rumor generally prevalent at Washington that Mr. Johnson was laboring under an insane apprehension that he would be poisoned; and that for this reason, and to guard against such a danger, he caused all his food to be very carefully examined before partaking of it.

The whole country remembers his swinging around the circle. If that was not an exploit of an insane man, what was it? Would any President, in the full possession of his senses, travel through the breadth of the land, denouncing a co-ordinate branch of the Government in such harsh, vulgar and abusive language as Mr. Johnson constantly applied to Congress? Would any sane President, instead of quietly making a removal of such officers as he had a right to remove, precede an ordinary exercise of executive authority by flying away out to St Louis, to proclaim to an astonished crowd, *"I will kick them out just as fast as I can."*

* * * * * * *

What has caused Mr. Johnson's insanity?

He has been subjected to intense and long-continued excitement. Wine may have had its part; and the disreputable pardon brokerage business points to other Indulgences. While those who are acquainted with the signs of that most seductive of all agencies of excitement and of madness, fancy that they see in the peculiar roll, and flash, and frenzy of his eye, the expression of opium!

* * * * * * *

We see no probability that any defense except that of insanity will be urged in his behalf. If acquitted on this ground, the President could be removed for inability to perform the duties of his office. That would be better for him, preferable on account of his family and friends, and pleasanter to a majority of the people, than that he should be adjudged guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors. It would be melancholy, but not a national disgrace.

Whatever may be the result, this impeachment business will soon be over, and the country will have repose, and will move steadily on in its career of greatness and glory.

The Chassepot Rifle Improved.

Experience in Europe has demonstrated several defects in the Chassepot rifle, both from the danger of the explosion of the cartridge and the operation of cold weather on the rubber packing designed to cut off the escape of gas. The Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* speaks of a transformed Chassepot rifle in which all of these difficulties are overcome by means so simple that it seems strange that it was not thought of long before. The happy thought is that of Mr. B. R. Hawkins, of New York, already so well known in connection with his projectile rifle cannon. The india rubber packing and needle are dispensed with, and an extractor to withdraw the empty cartridge case, and one other simple piece, are added, a slot or two is cut, and the transformation is complete. Now we have the simplest and most effective musket that has yet come under our inspection; in fact it is difficult to see how it would be possible to construct a gun of fewer pieces and simpler forms, and make it perform the functions required of it. The operations of loading and firing are performed in four motions, thus giving the greatest degree of firing with a rapidity possible with hardly any other arm.

In view of the extreme rapidity of fire now attained by the use of breech-loaders, and the absolute necessity of fewer soldier carrying with him a greater number of cartridges than heretofore, the French officers have now before them for decision the question of dispensing with the bayonet altogether. Like considerations have also suggested to these officers the propriety of reducing the caliber of the musket in those hereafter to be made from 0.44 to 0.35 inch, a change which will render practicable a further reduction of the weight of their musket, which is already the shortest and lightest of any now in use by any nation.

General Sickles Banished.

General Sickles has been addressing great mass meetings of Republicans in New Hampshire, pending the canvass for the State election next week. The Opposition, alarmed at the assaults which General Sickles is making upon the Democratic ranks in that State, have petitioned the President to order him to his regiment at Mackinaw. Mr. Johnson has been mean enough to comply with their request, and the order has been issued. The true intent of the order becomes perfectly evident, when we recollect that General Sickles cannot by any possibility reach Mackinaw, the most arctic point on the upper lakes, before the first of May, about which time the straits usually open, though sometimes not until much later. From about December 1st to May 1st, Mackinaw is entirely shut out from all communication with the other world except through a fortnightly mail, which is carried by voyageurs and dog trains, through two hundred miles of unbroken wilderness, and over immense depths of snow. General Sickles, to join his regiment immediately, must make a foot march of two hundred miles on snow shoes—a rather difficult feat for a man with only one leg.

John T. Hoffman for President.

The Chicago *Tribune* remarks that in that city Mr. Pendleton is regarded by the Democracy as already dead, and his name has been practically dropped by the knowing ones, and then proceeds as follows: There is a strong probability that the candidate of the Democratic party for the Presidency will be Mr. John T. Hoffman, the present Mayor of New York. The Eastern Democracy have never had any intention of nominating Pendleton, or of acquiescing in his nomination. Hoffman will be the candidate of New York and New England, and probably of Pennsylvania. The South will yield anything that is demanded by the New York party, and that party will be for Hoffman as certainly as the Cincinnati mob would be for Pendleton. Hoffman will of course be the "bondholders' candidate" in every sense of the word. There is hardly a "spoul" in a Democratic whether it be railroad bonds, steamships, mining stocks, express stocks, five-twenties or Confederate bonds, in which the Hoffman clique has not been directly or personally interested.

THE Connecticut gold diggers are still hard at work on the Scantic river, picking, drilling and blasting into the solid rock, some twenty feet below the surface of the earth. They have struck the walls of the treasure-bearing cave, and as soon as they can penetrate to the interior, the bars of gold and chests of diamonds will be within their grasp. The medium in Boston sends daily directions for the prosecution of the search, derived from the spirit of Benjamin Franklin, who superintends the operation; and everything is done in accordance with the instructions of the higher intelligences. Putnam, the digger, employs five men continually, and expresses his determination of keeping at work if it takes ten years to reach the cavern. As he pays good wages, and pays them promptly, it is certainly in the interest of labor at this dull season that he shall keep on.

—Advantage has been taken of the publication of the report of the trustees of Mr. Peabody's gift to the poor of London, to remind the rich how much good they might do if they would, and how much need there is that they should. Mr. Peabody's first £100,000 has provided comfortable homes for more than fifteen hundred people, and his second, which is to be applied in Westminster next year, will double the amount of service rendered by this boon.

HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
HARRISBURG, PA., March 5, 1868.

SENATE.

Bills Introduced.

Mr. Errett, of Allegheny—Allowing the School Directors of East Birmingham to elect a Superintendent of Public Schools.

Authorizing the Monongahela turnpike to charge tolls on certain parties not passing through the gates.

Repealing so much of the act of April 30, 1864, as imposes a tax on net revenue or income of corporations that pay tax on dividends.

By Mr. Browne, of Mercer—Incorporating the Oil Creek and Allegheny River Railroad Company, formed by consolidating the Oil Creek, Warren and Franklin and Farmers' Railroad Companies.

Mr. Lowry, of Erie—Joint resolution relative to improvement of the Ohio river and enlargement of the Erie canal.

Mr. Browne, of Lawrence, moved that the Senate adjourn from Tuesday morning next until Thursday evening after. Agreed to.

Mr. Coleman of Lebanon, read in places a supplement to an act of April 10, 1849, creating a sinking fund, as follows: That the valuation of the real estate of any decedent subject to a collateral inheritance tax agreeably to the laws of this Commonwealth, shall be the same as that assessed upon the same property by the last previous triennial assessment and valuation of the assessors and commissioners of the county in which said real estate is located.

Bills Passed Finally.

Providing for the payment of damages awarded Allegheny County Agricultural Society by reason of occupation of their lands by State troops.

Mr. White, of Indiana, read in place a bill extending the provisions of the general Fee bill of 1865 for two more years.

Improvement of Ohio River.

Mr. Lowry's joint resolutions relative to the Ohio river and Erie canal are as follows:

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the United States vests in Congress the exclusive right to regulate commerce between the several States of the Union; and whereas the Ohio river is a great and important line of internal communication in which many of the States of that Union are interested; and whereas the survey nearly completed by eminent engineers in the employ of the National Government will demonstrate that this great channel of commerce can be put in good and permanent condition for the passage of steamboats at all seasons of the year, which would involve the outlay of not exceeding twenty millions of dollars; therefore,

Resolved, That in the opinion of the people of Pennsylvania, the importance of this great channel of commerce willfully justify the expenditure of the sum named.

2d. That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to urge and vote for such appropriation as will secure the permanent improvement of the Ohio river upon the plan that civil engineers may recommend.

3d. That the necessary adjunct of the improvement of the channel of the Ohio river, the enlargement of the Erie canal, connecting said river with Lake Erie, to a capacity sufficient for the transportation of steam tugs of at least three hundred tons, is of the first importance, not only to the commercial circles of the country, but also as a military highway for the nation in time of war, and this enlargement is recommended to the favorable consideration of Congress, which is urged to co-operate with Pennsylvania in aiding and promoting this great work.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The whole morning session was occupied with the second reading of the appropriation bill without conclusion.

Army Claims.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—Mr. Connell, of Philadelphia, read in place a bill authorizing and directing the Auditor General to audit all claims presented to him on behalf of any citizen or citizens, corporation, municipality or other claimant against the United States for services rendered or moneys expended in Pennsylvania, during or on account of the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, and having examined and audited such claims as containing what is justly due, the Auditor General shall append his official certificate, setting forth on behalf of Pennsylvania the amount so audited. All such certificates shall be countersigned by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and the claimant may present the same to the United States accounting department for payment, the State not to be responsible for the claim, but simply to certify thereto.

Bills Passed Finally.

Authorizing incorporated companies to invest bonds and mortgages, ground rents and Government securities.

A general law bill, except for Allegheny, Lancaster, York and Montgomery.

The registry law passed second reading.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—Mr. Wilson, of Allegheny, read in place a bill incorporating the Sharpsburg and Kittanning Turnpike Company.

The whole afternoon session was occupied in discussing the appropriation bill, which passed second reading.

HARRISBURG, PA., March 6, 1867.

SENATE.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Coleman, of Lebanon, enabling Railroad Companies merged by special enactment previous to 1861, to take advantage of the benefits given by the general act of 1861.

Mr. Connell, of Philadelphia—one to continue the rate of interest at 6 per cent., and repealing the usury law.

Mr. White, of Indiana—Incorporating the Homer, Susquehanna and Cherry Tree Railroad Company.

Mr. Errett, of Allegheny—Empowering the Burgess of Braddocks borough to commit persons adjudged guilty of disorderly conduct to the county jail in default of payment of fine.

Authorizing the borough of Braddocks to permit its streets to be occupied by coal roads.

Authorizing the School Directors of East Deer township to borrow money.

Mr. Randall, of Schuylkill—Supplement to act of March 22d, 1867, to increase the revenues of the Commonwealth, which makes the tax on coal twenty-five cents per ton instead of four cents.

At twelve o'clock noon, adjourned till Monday evening.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The appropriation bill passed finally.

People's Passenger Railway.

The bill incorporating the Pittsburgh People's Passenger Railway passed a second reading, and was laid over with amendments introduced by Mr. Ford, of Allegheny, imposing the same taxes on the Company as are paid by the Citizens' Passenger Railway, and authorizing a connection with the Citizens' Passenger Railway upon terms to be agreed upon between the Companies, the Court of Common Pleas to fix the terms in case of dispute.

Mr. Mellor, of Allegheny, opposed the bill to incorporate the Pittsburgh Accommodation Passenger Railway.

Supplement to City Charter.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, of Allegheny, Mr. Ford's supplement to acts incorporating Pittsburgh was amended by securing the new portions of the city from the payment of any portion of the indebtedness of the old portions of the city; providing that corporation shall pay its own debts; authorizing Councils to change assessments, thereby reducing the tax of the rural districts; allowing the erection of wooden buildings, by consent of Councils, and fixing the terms of new officers from December 18, 1868, to February 1, 1869; prescribing that tickets shall be voted indorsed city and Council and ward officers. Laid over for third reading.

The balance of the session was occupied with the first reading of private bills on calendar, without final action.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—Mr. Ford's Pittsburgh supplement passed finally as amended this morning.

Bills Passed Finally.

The following bills among others passed finally: Annexing South-western portion of Duquesne borough to Allegheny city.

Authorizing East Birmingham borough to borrow $100,000 for improvements.

Authorizing the opening of Locust street, Pittsburgh.

Changing the name of Back street, Kittanning, to Grant avenue.

Incorporating Pennsylvania Horse Breeders' Association, capital $100,000, to hold lands in Butler and adjoining counties.

Supplement to Act relative to draining of wet and sprouty lands, extending the same to draining of coal and other mines in Westmoreland, Armstrong and Somerset counties.

Incorporating the Union Grocery, Produce and Variety Co-operative Association of Brownsville, Fayette county; capital $75,000.

Incorporating the Philadelphia, New York and Boston Steamship Company, capital $100,000, with privilege of increasing to one million.

Changing the name of Kittanning University to Columbia University.

Incorporating Apollo Cemetery, Armstrong county.

Incorporating St. Paul's Orphans' Home, near Butler.

Supplement for Ben Franklin Insurance Company, Allegheny City, increasing the number of directors to fifteen, and authorizing the present directors to appoint eight additional directors till next election.

Preventing fishing with nets or seines in the streams of Beaver county for five years hereafter.

Incorporating the Petroleo-Calcium Gas Light Company of Pennsylvania, to supply cities, towns, &c.; capital $200,000; office in Kittanning, Armstrong county.

Supplement for People's Savings Bank, Pittsburgh, repealing section seven of the charter, and authorizing dividends out of net earnings. Adjourned till Monday.

Notaries Public Appointed.

The following appointments of Notaries Public for Allegheny county were made by the Governor to-day: John Ramsey, Allegheny City; Gilbert McMaster, Philip R. Mertz, Geo. W. Thompson and Charles C. Taylor, Pittsburgh; Frederick M. McGee, Oakland; J. K. Jacques, East Birmingham.

Delegates to State Convention.

Delegates to the Philadelphia State Republican Convention, travelling over the Pennsylvania Central, and paying full fare will be furnished free tickets by Col. Jordan for return home.

HARRISBURG, March 9, 1868.

SENATE.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Errett, of Allegheny—Restraining unlicensed peddling in Tarentum borough Allegheny county.

By Mr. Scaright, of Fayette—Incorporating the Monongahela Association of Baptist Churches.

Also extending the time for the payment of enrollment tax on an act incorporating the Dollar Savings Bank of Uniontown, Fayette county.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Mann, of Potter, moved that when the House adjourns to-morrow, it adjourn to meet on Friday morning. Agreed to.

The bill authorizing the construction and maintenance of a boom in the Allegheny river, in Corydon township, Warren county, passed finally as it came from the Senate.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Gallagher, of Westmoreland, authorizing the assessment of a tax to repay the money borrowed to pay bounties in Allegheny township, Westmoreland county.

Also, extending the General Fee bill of 1865 to Westmoreland county for two years more.

Mr. Ford, of Allegheny—Authorizing the appointment of an inspector of stationary steam engines and steam boilers in Allegheny county by the Judges of the Court, acting with an advisory committee, and defining the duties of said inspector.

Also, incorporating the borough of Ormsby, Allegheny county.

By Mr. Smith, of Allegheny—Supplement to act of 1867 relating to Manchester borough, repealing so much of said act as adheres to a portion of McClure township to said borough.

By Mr. Nicholson, of Beaver—Exempting the parsonage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Beaver borough, from taxation.

Also incorporating the borough of Baden, in Economy township, Beaver county. This last bill passed finally.

The postage account account of the House for February was $4,708 33.

XLth CONGRESS.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, March 5, 1868.

Scene in the Senate.

Another big day in Washington and big jam at the Capitol, and each another very important step in the programme of impeachment. As early as nine o'clock this morning all the avenues leading to the capitol were thronged, for it was known that the Senate would, at one o'clock, resolve itself into the high court which is to weigh and determine Andrew Johnson's right to continue in office. Long before the hour of noon the galleries of the Senate were crowded with an attentive concourse of both sexes. The ladies' gallery presented an unusually brilliant appearance and its occupants chattered like ten thousand magpies, until a rap of the Vice President's gavel awed them into silence and warned them of a prayer from the Chaplain, which immediately followed. A rumor was then put in circulation and touched with the spirit of electricity that Chief Justice Chase had declined to open the Court and preside over the high court of impeachment, which engrossed his attention and that of all his associates on the Supreme Bench. This turned out a false alarm. The usual routine business of the morning hour proceeded, and is voted a bore by all present. People have come to witness a great ceremony, and have no patience with previous bills and such legislative trifles as seem to engross the attention of the Senate for the first hour.

One o'clock is anxiously watched for, and promptly at that hour the entrance doors of the Senate Chamber were thrown open, and doors and galleries are hushed into keen expectancy. A moment later the Chief Justice, easily recognizable in his judicial robes, enters, accompanied by Senator Pomeroy on his left, and followed by Judge Nelson, who is in plain citizen's dress, and walked arm in arm with Senator Wilson. Mr. Wade, in the chair, immediately raps the gavel, suspends legislative business, announces the resolution of yesterday for the organization of the court, and vacates the chair. The Chief Justice with his escort walks down the aisle to the desk of the Vice President, behind which he stands and says: "Senators, I am here in obedience to your notice for the purpose of proceeding with you in forming a court of impeachment for the trial of Andrew Johnson, President of the United States. I am now ready to take the oath."

Chief Justice Sworn In.

Associate Justice Nelson then administered the following oath to the Chief Justice: "I do solemnly swear that in all things appertaining to the trial of the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, now pending, I will do impartial justice according to the Constitution and the laws, so help me God."

Swearing of the Senators.

The Chief Justice then took the chair vacated a few moments before by Mr. Wade, and ordered the Senators to be sworn in in succession.

The Galleries and Floor Crowded.

By this time the galleries were so crowded that scores of ladies were seated on the steps and in the aisles, and the doors were choked up with spectators. Members from the House flocked in and crowded the floor and lobbies of the Chamber. Prominent among them, and evidently pleased at what was going on, as if conscious of the early part he had taken in it, was Mr. Ashley, who stood up behind Mr. Sumner. Speaker Colfax nestled himself on Chandler's seat. Messrs. Eggleston and Cary, from opposite sides of the house, gazed fixedly at the great prologue. The diplomatic gallery was by this time literally choked up with foreign ministers, including Mr. Thornton, and Senator's wives, including Mrs. Wade.

The extreme quiet that fell on the floor and galleries as the solemn and measured sentence of the Chief Justice was uttered, became less absolute as Senator after Senator was sworn. There was some disappointment that the Senators were not sworn in groups, as on the first day of

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1868.

THE Republican State Convention, in session at Philadelphia, Tuesday unanimously renominated Gen. JOHN F. HARTRANFT for Auditor General, and Col. JACOB M. CAMPBELL for Surveyor General. The Convention also declared unanimously for General GRANT for President and Ex Governor CURTIN was declared the choice of Pennsylvania for Vice-President by a large majority over other candidates.

IT is evident that no practical free railroad law is to be enacted at this session of the Pennsylvania Legislature. The Conference Committee of the Senate and House, a majority of which was said to favor the House bill when appointed, have reported in favor of the Senate bill much to the astonishment of the friends of a free railroad law. But the House has refused to accept the report, and has recommitted it to the Conference Committee, with instructions to insist on the liberal provisions of the House bill. Should the Committee reconsider the bills, and agree upon the House bill, the Senate would probably refuse to accept the report, and insist on its own prohibitory sections. And thus the free railroad principle would eventually fail of success at this session of the Legislature.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION.

The result of the election in New Hampshire on Tuesday cannot but be gratifying to every friend of good government, as it augurs auspiciously for the success of Republican principles in the coming grand political contest. No State was ever more thoroughly canvassed than was New Hampshire by the Democracy, who, aided as they were by the federal office holders, calculated on carrying the State by a large majority. So sanguine were the Democracy of success, that they had made preparations for joyful demonstrations in many of the prominent cities throughout the country, all of which go for naught and adds to their chagrin at their defeat. The patriotic people of New Hampshire have stood as firmly by their principles as their granite hills to their base, and in the face of the most powerful opposition they have for many years encountered, have maintained their majority. All honor to the people of the old Granite State.

THE CRAWFORD COUNTY SYSTEM.

Although there was manifest a pretty general desire among the delegates in the recent Republican County Convention in this city for a change in the manner of making nominations, there was none effected, for the reason that the country districts feared they might in some way be outvoted by the city. This objection was urged in Crawford, Mercer, Philadelphia and Lancaster counties previous to their adoption of what is now known as the Crawford County System, but experience has proved there was no ground for it. The charge that candidates could so combine as to carry the cities in a popular vote is far from the truth. The Crawford County System, where honestly enforced, excludes Democratic roughs from the polls, and enables respectable voters to attend the primary elections, which they were previously deterred from doing under the peculiar management of the delegate system. An honest expression of the preferences of the party has thus been obtained, and good men have been selected as candidates. Although the effort to effect a change has failed for the present in Allegheny county, it is hoped that some plan may yet be adopted by which Republican voters may make their nominations in a more satisfactory manner than at present.

Referring to the working of the Crawford System in Lancaster county, where it has only been in operation one year, the Philadelphia *Press* says:

"Our special dispatch this morning from Lancaster county, giving the result of the delegate elections held there on Saturday, bears remarkable testimony to the practical working of what is popularly known as the Crawford county system. Under the rules of that system the election was conducted, and we have a return of 6,983 votes cast—almost seven thousand. In 1867 the Republican vote of Lancaster county cast at the general election for Judge Williams was 12,790; for Governor Geary, 14,962; in 1865 for General Hartranft, 11,979; in 1864 for President Lincoln, 14,004. Thus in the four years, embracing a Presidential, gubernatorial, judicial and general State election, the average Republican vote of the county polled as a generic election has amounted to 13,962. On Saturday more than half that number of votes were brought out at a primary election. This speaks volumes for the system that elicited them. Those familiar with the ordinary working of the machinery of the government know how very rarely a primary election brings out expectedly five or even twenty per cent. of the full strength of the party. Most probably, under the old system, twenty-five or thirty party hacks, in the back room of a tavern redolent with the fumes of bad whisky and worse tobacco, determined the whole matter for a ward or township of from three to five hundred voters.

THE NEWSPAPER.

All more or less familiar with English literature are aware that for many ages after newspapers began to be published they had to contend against a strong current of prejudice. Not only men in power regarded them with the hostility of fear, but philanthropists and philosophers viewed their existence and their influence with much misgiving and apprehension. In England strong legal restraints have frequently been imposed upon them, and severe penalties in quite recent times have been inflicted upon editors and publishers for giving general currency to facts and invectives for which at the present day they would be deemed worthy of reward. In the latter part of last century a poet whose writings are still and will long be popular, denounced newspapers indiscriminately in terms so harsh and degrading as to produce the effect of burlesque upon the reader of to-day. In the language of this poet, newspapers are like insects "which take their rise from grubs obscene that lie in shallow pools, or thence ascend the sky: such are these base ephemeras, so born to die before the next revolving moon." They are worse than disagreeable insects, however. The latter "are lost in the first visit of a winter frost," while the former "remain a base but constant breed, whose swarming sons their short lived sires succeed, no changing season makes their numbers less, nor Sunday shines a Sabbath on the press."

However clearly some may now discern the evils produced by the daily press, few sensible people would think of quoting GEORGE CRABBE'S lines as containing its just characterization. For one thing, newspapers have greatly improved in character since he wrote, and the course of events has had the effect of suggesting a more just discrimination of the advantages and disadvantages flowing from their influence. Yet even at the present time we believe that a few respectable people may be found who look upon newspapers as inevitable evils, as a sort of licensed disturbers of the current of wholesome thoughts and opinions, which it would be well to get rid of, if that were possible. Some are ready to admit that as vehicles of the news of the day they answer a useful purpose and could not well be dispensed with. As advertising mediums, too, they command the tolerance, if not the respect of many. Whatever beyond, or in addition to these directly practical objects newspapers may do, or attempt, we fear, is regarded by some as supererogation,—as an assumption of work not belonging to their proper and legitimate functions. We have heard persons much versed in books and not manifestly deficient in talents, slightly and with some complacency boast that they never thought of reading anything in a journal except the news. About the events of the day they formed their own judgment, and cared not for the editor's opinion. Even a writer in a late number of *Putnam's Magazine* advances the notion that a newspaper ought to have no opinion of its own, but should contain a mere reflection of the opinion of the public.

It cannot be painful to the candid editor, and it is surely not unfair, to take the independent reader at his own estimate of his own powers. Let it be cheerfully conceded that there are many interested in the news who are abundantly capable of thinking judiciously concerning the occurrences in different parts of the world, laid before them in the daily journals. There are people whom the meagre communications of the smallest village newspaper qualify to form and to declare opinions most precise, comprehensive and indisputable, regarding the politics, not only of Washington, but of *London, Madrid* and St. Petersburg. Even as Professor OWEN, from the fossil tibia and jawbone of an extinct monster of the pre-Adamic world, is able to reconstruct the entire animal and set it on its legs again in a picture, or in wood—so these politicians from the shortest telegraphic hint, are able to anticipate the change of cabinets and the overthrow of dynasties. In both cases, however, there is an exceptional exercise of intellectual power. Generally speaking—to form a correct judgment about the times—the times must be studied with an industry and an application of means incompatible with the earnest and successful pursuit of any other occupation. Thus to study the times, to gather information from all quarters, to compare, to analyze and to judge, ought to be the business of the editor. We do not claim, nor do we think that he always presents a realization of this ideal. But undoubtedly to the fact that the profession perform their duty in this direction with more or less success is partially to be ascribed the influence which the press certainly exercises on the public sentiment. Merely to read newspapers is an easy and frivolous occupation. COLERIDGE classed the practice among weakeners of the memory. To study newspapers so as to derive from them a correct picture of the living world and in some imperfect way to anticipate the future, is a very different thing. If we have been rightly informed Dr. FRANCIS LIEBER when connected with South Carolina college used to say that, in every university there ought to be a professorship for the purpose of teaching young men how to gather contemporary history from the daily and weekly journals. And in as far as the comments of the Press afford evidence of successful study and endeavor to this end, they present results and materials of knowledge which very many readers, from the absence of means and opportunities, are unable to acquire for themselves. Hence newspapers must inevitably exercise some agency in the formation of public opinion. Of course in regard to many things the editorial columns will merely reflect, or give expression to the common sentiment of the city or state in which the paper appears. But just as certainly topics new to most readers must be introduced to their notice,—and views not only novel, but unwelcome, or even offensive at the first, find their earliest ventilation in the columns of the daily journal. The writer in *Putnam's Magazine* refers to the London *Times* as an example of a newspaper conducted on his theory. A most unfortunate selection, as the *Times* through its almost entire history has been pre-eminently a former of public opinion. For many years now thousands of British gentlemen, not a few of them liberally educated, have been wont to take their judgments of passing events from its leading articles very much as they have been wont to take their bread from their baker and their meat from their butcher. The only time in the career of that paper, when there was any seeming ground for the representation of this writer was while Captain STERLING was its editor. He, it is said, never wrote his leading article until he had spent three or four hours in running about from place to place gathering up the opinions to be broached in the next morning's paper. It was not the public opinion he thus collected, but the impressions of a few prominent men in the political world. The division of labor was not then perfect in the *Times* establishment, and the Captain was compelled to gather his own news. Opinion was formed then as now by the article founded on the impressions and reports derived from men of power or influence. Time had shown that the *Times'* editorials were generally based on solid information about public affairs, and that its announcements and prognostications were likely to be verified by the future.

We sometimes hear the objection made to the daily press that it irritates and excites the public mind by the publication of false and sometimes conflicting statements. Admitting both the fact and its effect, does the reader ever try to conjecture what would be the state of things in this respect, if there were no newspapers? Fancy the condition of things now existing in Washington, with no newspapers to keep the country *au courant* with events! We are told in MIOT'S *Memoires* of NAPOLEON, that sometime after the death of the Duke D'ENGHIEN, he complained bitterly in the Council of the State about the rumors of all sorts which were circulating in Paris and about the inexplicable and almost incredible credulity of the Parisians. The explanation of this credulity, says MIOT, was the silence of the press. As the journals said nothing, people believed, or feared everything. Every one knows how fear in children, and in older persons too, is intensified by obscurity. But for the information diffused at present by the newspapers, the general imagination would be so excited that business would be almost arrested. This is one good of the daily press.

THE PRESS IN FRANCE.

While in England and the United States the Press is an established institution with acknowledged rights and unquestioned relations to the common weal, in France the whole subject is still a matter of agitation and debate. For us, on this side of the Atlantic, the settlement of the question which may result from its discussion, has no personal or direct interest. Neither our policy nor our speculations are likely to be affected at all by any opinions or measures regarding the Press that may acquire vogue, or may be carried into action by the French. Our interest in French thought and French legislation on the subject, is a purely speculative interest; and yet Americans ought to feel and, no doubt, do feel, a very real and earnest interest in the Press legislation of so intellectual and influential a people. During the last four weeks there have been frequent references in the cable telegrams to a law proposed in the *corps Legislatif* "for the regulation of the Public Press," and yesterday we were told that "the bill as amended had passed by a vote of two hundred and forty-two affirmatives to one negative."

No more entertaining or instructive history could be written than a history of the French Press and its arbitrary, or legal regulation for the last ninety years. For centuries under the *ancien regime* absolutism had everything its own way. The men of letters were generally pensioners of the court, and neither desired nor exercised any influence on public affairs. When *philosophy*, so-called, came into vogue, and began to publish opinions and speculations affecting the very foundations of the existing order of things, the reigning powers were utterly blind to the probable effect of their circulation. The effect of a defamatory, or satirical libel on a distinguished person was seen at once and immediately punished. But the Press was an unknown power in the country, and its results in moulding and overturning ancient notions and current doctrines were unsuspected. M. SAINT MARC GIRARDIN, in an essay on the constitution of 1852, stated a few years ago that he had known an old friend of the *philosophers* of the eighteenth century, who said to him one day that "the best system of government was a very strong monarchy with a very free press." "The excellent man," says the reporter, "regarded as a system of government the inconsistency which he had seen in his youth, before '89, when the monarchy was almost absolute, and when every body wrote or spoke against the government. Royalty was limited (temperee) by pamphlets, and liberty in turn was limited by *lettres de cachet*." In the course of a few years this arrangement was ended in revolution and general overthrow. Two things so antagonistic and incompatible as despotism and a free press could not exist together. This was the first introduction of the French people to a knowledge of the power of the Press. The lesson has never been forgotten, and the recollection of this experience may be seen in the whole subsequent history of the relations between the Press and the Government.

Perhaps there is something in the character of the French nation which renders them peculiarly susceptible to the influence of writing. Their keen appreciation of wit, for one thing, renders them excellent readers of satirical attacks upon men in power. In view of this trait, LA HARPE, we believe it was, who described the old government as an absolute monarchy limited by epigrams. Many a distinguished French statesman has been ruined by a jest, and years of faithful service have been buried in oblivion by a sneer. Then French clearness of thought, indicated in the wonderful perspicuity of expression which characterizes their language, comes in aid of the literary assailant of things established. They neither mystify themselves nor are easily mystified by others. They may not see all sides of a subject, or weigh conflicting opinions with judicial calmness and impartiality, but the obvious advantages or disadvantages of a method or a measure are grasped at one view with a penetrating insight which seems to itself to know the whole truth and to qualify for action. Their irritability and impatience must also be taken into account.

It is only in the recollection of these and other prominent traits of the French people that we are able to account for some of the eccentric proceedings, as they seem to us, formerly adopted in restraining the Press. How strange, for example, it appears to prohibit a writer from choosing a certain kind of manure as the subject of his critical objections. In 1854 the *Prefet* of the Department of *Cotes du Nord*, *warned* the *Journal de Loudeac*, because on the 29th of April it contained an article passing an unfavorable judgment derived from experience, on a certain compost which at that time happened to be the subject of a governmental experiment in that region. The warning began with the preamble—"considering that the controversy opened in that journal on the subject of industrial manures is of a nature to lessen the value and the results of the experiments undertaken by the government, to produce indecision in the minds of purchasers and thus greatly injure agriculture by keeping them from employing a substance whose excellent effects, when it is of good quality, are incontestable, therefore"—the journal was warned to say nothing more on the subject.

The new law for the regulation of the press, of which the passage was announced in yesterday's telegram, received an almost unanimous vote. We are not acquainted with its provisions, but however rigorous or harsh they may be, we can hardly doubt that the law will be a welcome substitute for the system of administrative warnings (avertissements) hitherto practiced. A positive and well defined statute for the guidance of the press has often been asked for by eminent French authors and statesmen. M. de CHATEAUBRIAND, early in the Restoration, as we learn from his speeches, requesting a law on the subject, said that "it needed not to be mild and indulgent. Let it be severe, but let it be a law; no arbitrary interference, though it should be moderately exercised. Let each one know what is his right and how far it extends; such is the government we desire for the press. Having the law for rule and guide, it will neither be bold to licentiousness because sustained by the passions of some powerful men, nor timid to the point of insignificance."

We shall wait with interest to learn the tenor of the new law and how it is regarded by those most interested in its enactments.

LIBERIA.

This name for many years so familiar to the political and social controversies of the country, has for some time been very much lost sight of. In our paper of yesterday some readers must have noticed the petition offered in the United States Senate on the 9th inst., in which Liberia was introduced in connection with the old emigration scheme. This was a petition of one hundred and sixty colored people of North Carolina and Georgia. Having stated that in their present position "they are the victims of persecution," they asked for "an appropriation to enable them to emigrate to Liberia."

As every one remembers, in the days before the war, this American settlement on the West African coast was frequently the subject of violent debate, and even recrimination between the decided friends of immediate emancipation and those who held conservative opinions on the subject of the peculiar institution. In this way so much feeling was enlisted on both sides of the question involved in the Liberia enterprise, that it was rather difficult to get at its real merits, or even to ascertain the facts necessary to a confident estimate of its character. This feeling has now in a great measure subsided, and we are able to view the Liberia scheme with the same measure of judicial calmness and impartiality as any other. On the one hand, there is at present neither room nor temptation to allege that the promoters of the emigration desire, by diminishing their numbers, to enhance the value of slaves in the United States, nor, on the other hand, to deny or disparage the inducements to emigrate, held out by the African Colony. Few persons in the Northern States are now disposed to question the right of the people of color to remain in this country, if they choose to do so. One may even believe that, by remaining in the land of their bondage and persecution, they may be destined to confer great benefits upon it, and yet be of opinion that they would bless both themselves and the country of their ancestry, by removing to it. The subject is important under another aspect. For several thousand years the destiny of Africa has been a problem interesting to all civilized men. Apparently from the beginning, the greater portion of the Peninsula has been a land of darkness—full, too, of the habitations of cruelty. As is shown on the Egyptian monuments, slaves were drawn from its interior to serve the task-masters of Karnac, before what we call antiquity had begun. Again, in the Augustan age, African bondmen were employed in tilling the fields and doing the drudgery of Italy. Within the memory of those now living much has been done to arrest the horrible traffic which has for so many centuries been at once a cause and an effect of the degradation of that fertile region. Inquiry will show that the American colony of Liberia has played a most important part in this great work of humanity and civilization. The settlement, extending more than three hundred miles along the coast and nearly two hundred towards the interior, has already made a deep impression upon many millions of the aborigines. A desire for education has been diffused among them. Many of them send their children 500 and 600 miles to be educated in the schools of Liberia. Great multitudes of these natives, at their own request, have been taken under the protection of the Republic. More than one hundred thousand live on its territory, and four hundred thousand of them are bound by treaties with it to abolish the slave trade. In the extension and prosperity of this Republic, we see opened up a prospect of the civilization of the most benighted portion of Africa. Nor let it be forgotten that Liberia—though peopled by Africans—is of American origin. Its government was modeled on our own, and consists of a President, a Senate and a House of Representatives. In 1848 its independence was acknowledged by France and England, and, if we rightly remember, one of the first acts of our own Government on its deliverance from the shackles of slavery was to make the same recognition. Many think that they see evidence that our Democratic institutions are destined to extend in the course of time over all Europe. Is it improbable that through the influence of Liberia, or rather from it as a center, Republicanism may ultimately subdue and civilize Africa too, and thus solve one of the problems of the ages?

THE latest news from the far East is very interesting. Correspondents in China give a partial correction of the first statements received in this country in regard to the appointment of Mr. BURLINGAME. According to this rectification the late American Minister does not stand alone at the head of the Chinese Embassy to the Western Powers. Two Chinamen of high literary and political position occupy an equal rank with him in the commission. Virtually, the latter is the chief of the mission, as at present his associates from their ignorance of the languages and usages of the West, must be entirely dependent upon him for direction. They are, however, expected by study and observation to qualify themselves to act independently after a while. The New York *Times* correspondent says that the first plan was to constitute the embassy of natives entirely, and the idea of connecting Mr. BURLINGAME with it was an afterthought. Every one will see the reasonableness of the arrangement adopted. To secure the approval and confidence of the Chinese, it was necessary that they should be in part represented by countrymen. In this arrangement, too, there is more satisfactory evidence of the good faith of the Celestials in departing from their ancient policy of non-intercourse. Had a foreigner been the sole head of the mission there would have seemed to be no deviation from old Chinese use and wont. From Japan also, the latest intelligence is highly important. In a portion of the population, at least, a wonderful change of sentiment seems to have taken place in regard to intercourse with foreigners. Jealousy, excited by the prospect of the advantages sure to flow from the opening of certain ports while others remain closed, has led to open war between the Tycoon and some of the federal chiefs of the country. The New York *Times'* correspondent describes an engagement which he witnessed between two steam vessels belonging to the powers at feud. From these indications it seems not unlikely that we may soon hear of an entire revolution in the government of Japan—the result of the enforced opening of the ports to general foreign trade.

MR. FORD, of this city, has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania authorizing the appointment of an inspector of stationary steam engines and steam boilers in Allegheny county by the judges of the court, acting with an advisory committee and defining the duties of said inspector. This is certainly a step in the right direction. It was no doubt suggested by the fearful accidents with which this and other communities have been recently visited. Machines of such terribly destructive power as steam engines ought to be subjected to a degree of scrutiny which only a person whose business it is, can give them. Not only before being used ought they to be examined by an expert, but at frequent intervals after they have come into use. And it is, we suppose, this kind and degree of supervision which Mr. FORD'S bill is designed to secure. It is both bad morality and bad economy to expose hundreds of human lives to the hazards of a defective or weak steam engine, or steam boiler.

THE New York *Sun* having discussed the probable composition of the Cabinet of the possible President, WADE, has considered the diplomatic appointments which may be made by the same magistrate, and gives the following list of new diplomats, which the editor says, "can be safely commended to the public:"

England.....	Gen. George H. Thomas.
France.....	Thomas N. Theard, Louisiana.
Prussia.....	James Speed, Kentucky.
Austria.....	Morton McMichael, Pennsylvania.
Spain.....	Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, New York.
Sweden.....	John Lothrop Motley, Massachusetts.
Brazil.....	B. Gratz Brown, Missouri.
China.....	Bayard Taylor, New York.
Japan.....	Jonas W. Bond, Madison, of Columbia.
Buenos Ayres	William Bross, Illinois.
Portugal.....	Samuel Bowles, Massachusetts.
Belgium.....	M. Halstead, Ohio.
Mexico.....	Josh Minor Bell, Virginia.
Central Am...	Charles James, California.
Hayti.....	Wendell Phillips, Massachusetts.

There are seven prominent journalists in the above list, and all are well qualified to represent us at the several Courts to which they are proposed to be nominated. But it is doubtful whether Mr. WADE would nominate all of them.

ALTHOUGH the counties interested in the lumber trade on the Allegheny river strongly protested against it, the bill authorizing certain wealthy capitalists of another section of the State to construct and maintain a boom in the Allegheny river, in Warren county, has passed both houses of the Pennsylvania Legislature, and only requires the Governor's signature to become a law. What effect this obstruction of the free navigation of the river will have on the lumber business of Pittsburgh we cannot tell, but judging from the opposition to it manifested by the lumbermen of Jefferson, Clarion and other counties, it is inferred that it will prove injurious financially to those engaged in floating lumber to market.

THE report of the Committee of Congress on Retrenchment, extracts from which will be found on the first page, confirms the reported frauds on the revenue in the non-payment of taxes on whisky and tobacco, and places the blame for these frauds where it has all along been thought to rest—with the President. It is a shameful exposition of the inefficiency, not to say criminal culpability of the chief Executive power of the nation.

THE General Registry Law for Pennsylvania has passed both branches of the Legislature, and only awaits the Governor's signature to become operative. The bill passed the Senate yesterday by a vote of fourteen Republicans in favor and nine Democrats against. One of the results of such a law will be smaller majorities in many of the Democratic counties.

The Lake Superior Iron District.

The following interesting statistics in regard to the production of iron in the Marquette District, we gather from the Lake Superior *Miner*:

Rapid as has been the development of the iron interest of Lake Superior, the year 1867 stands out in its history as unprecedented. A decade has scarcely passed, since the first shipment of iron ore from the mines of Marquette county was made, and yet the grand result of the year just closed is a half million tons—equal to one-fourth of the entire product of the United States. The population of the country, as made up from reliable estimates, has been increased during the year by about 4,000. The total population now cannot fall short of 14,000, showing an increase of 40 per cent. The following is a summary of iron ore and pig iron produced in 1867:

IRON ORE.	Tons.
Jackson Iron Company	126,391
Cleveland Iron Company	74,832
Marquette Iron Company	7,827
New York Iron Company	17,000
New England Mining Company	120,175
Pittsburgh and L. S. Iron Company	49,607
Lake Superior Mining Company	21,073
Edwards Mine	1,983
Washington Iron Company	24,141
Iron Mountain Iron Company	5,000
Iron Cliff (estimated)	1,000
Total iron ore	449,320
PIG IRON.	Tons.
Greenwood Furnace	5,330
Morgan Furnace	5,000
Pioneer Furnace	4,151
Collins Furnace	3,051
Bloomfield Furnace	3,001
Pioneer Furnace (two stacks)	6,980
Northern Furnace	1,730
Total pig iron	30,911
Total ore and pig iron	480,230

The following is a comparative statement of the production of iron ore and pig iron in Marquette county from 1858 to 1867 inclusive:

Year.	Iron Ore.	Pig Iron.	Value.
1858	31,085	1,020	$220,242
1859	66,679	7,558	578,459
1860	116 998	5,629	736,486
1861	45,430	7,959	410,404
1862	115,721	6,590	981,977
1863	188,297	9,813	1,410,930
1864	253,123	13,832	1,892,219
1865	350,596	12,784	3,090,453
1866	296,872	18,497	2,448,990
1867	402,339	20,011	3,475,720
Total	925		442,431
Clearances for 1860	765		381,345
Increase	161		61,086

The Marquette and Ontonagon, as also the Peninsular Rail road, has been taxed to its utmost to furnish transportation for the immense amount of freight pressed upon it. It has moved as many as 3,000 tons in a single day. Both roads are engaged in increasing their rolling stock this winter. The tonnage moved over the M. & O. Railroad for the year 1867 is as follows:

East	399,125
West	33,453
Total	240,081
In 1866	236,976
Increase	103,105
Passengers carried in 1867	35,995
Passengers carried in 1866	12,594
Increase	23,372

The active capital employed in mining and manufacturing has been increased not less than $1,000,000. The aggregate sum invested in the iron business is now about $5,000,000.

MR. JOHN HECKER, who lately published a silly note in the New York papers declaring that he would have no more intercourse with opponents of the President, is likely to feel the effect of his rash vow in an unexpected way. Many women in New Jersey have declared that they will not use, and grocers refuse to buy the farinaceous goods manufactured by this very partisan gentleman.

There is quite a lively excitement in Jackson county, West Virginia, over certain indications of silver deposits. A Pittsburgh company have sunk a shaft to the depth of 565 feet, and are still going down. They expect to reach the argentiferous shortly. A company from Pomeroy, Ohio, have reached the depth of 150 feet and are working steadily, with good "indications."

THE FREE RAILROAD LAW.

Report of the Legislative Committee of Conference.

The following is the report made in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, on Friday evening, by the Committee of Conference on the free railroad law: The Committee of Conference to which was committed the subject of the differences existing between the two Houses in relation to the amendments to bill No. 14 of the House of Representatives entitled "an act to authorize the formation of railroad corporations," and report that they have agreed to amend the bill, as passed by the Senate, in section eight, fourth line, by inserting after the word "exceed" the word "double;" also, in the twelfth section, by striking out the words "or borough," where they occur. Also, in the eleventh section, by adding the words as follows, viz: "And in case of failure of an agreement on the part of those having the management of said roads connecting, then, and in that case, either of said parties may apply to the Court of Common Pleas within the jurisdiction in which said connection is proposed to be made, whose duty it shall be to appoint a jury of three men, who shall determine and fix said terms; which, when approved by said Court, shall be conclusive." And they have also agreed to recommend that the House of Representatives shall recede from its non-concurrence in the amendments made by the Senate to the bill.

RUSSELL ERRETT,
G. DAWSON,
COLEMAN C. BURNETT,
Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate.
GEORGE WILSON,
W. W. WATT,
L. WESTBROOK,
Committee of Conference on the part of the House of Representatives.

STATE NEWS.

A monument is about to be erected in the Public Square at Norristown, in memory of the Union soldiers from Montgomery county, who lost their lives in the late war, and it is designed to have the names of all such engraved thereon. In order to do this it is necessary that the name of every such soldier be sent to Mrs. Cadwalader Evans, Bridgeport, Pa.

A large number of the prominent citizens of Philadelphia have petitioned Councils to cause the city freight railroads to be removed from Broad street and Market street. The chief objections alleged by the petitioners to this use of the streets are the disgraceful and revolting cruelties practiced by the teamsters upon the animals under their charge.

The aggregate receipts of the passenger railway lines in Philadelphia for the year 1867 were $2,923,779 59.

Over $10,000 have been subscribed towards building a new Episcopal Church in Bloomsburg.

In Spring, Crawford county, on the 19th ult., a gentleman upwards of eighty years old was married to a lady over seventy. The chances of the happy couple celebrating their golden wedding being regarded as rather uncertain, they will probably take advantage of the latest novelty and celebrate their sugar wedding, which occurs just thirty days after the first ceremony.

The business men of Erie hold a meeting this evening for the purpose of organizing a Board of Trade.

As Bishop Stevens will be disabled for a considerable length of time, he has authorized the Standing Committee of his Diocese to procure the temporary assistance of some of the other Bishops. The Standing Committee, through its President, the Rev. H. S. Morton, D. D., is making the necessary arrangements to fill the Bishop's appointments during the present month, and it is expected that the Episcopal duties of the Diocese will be performed by Bishops Randall, of Colorado, Lee, of Delaware, and others.

There are now living in the township of Lower Swatara, Dauphin county, twelve men whose united ages average 80 years. Eight of them average 82 years, as follows, viz: Rev. Jacob Roop, 86 years; Henry Gayman, 84 years; Henry Cook, 84 years; Martin Nisley, 82 years; John Halabaugh, 80 years; Christian Roop, 80 years; Rev. Daniel Engle, 80 years; John Denny, 80 years; Peter Roop, 77 years; Robert Wilson, 76 years; Frederick Cassel, 76 years; Michael Alleman, 76 years. Many of these old gentlemen are yet quite active, and all of them able to attend to their ordinary business.

Iron Manufacture in Illinois---Chicago to Rival Pittsburgh.

A company has been organized in Chicago, with a capital of $250,000, for the manufacture of pig iron from Lake Superior ore. The basis of the enterprise is the coal found at Brazil, Clay county, Indiana, on the line of the Terre Haute and Indianapolis Railroad. Until a comparatively recent date, it was not known that this coal would answer the purpose, but the matter has been definitely determined by the erection of three blast furnaces at Brazil, by Chicago parties, which have been in successful operation about three months. The Briar Hill Iron Co. has been considered one of the best for the purpose, but it is ascertained that pig iron can be manufactured with the Brazil coal at a saving of three-fourths of a ton over the Briar Hill, to the ton of pig iron. The application of the furnaces is not yet definitely determined, but it is probable that they will be somewhere upon the South branch. It is the intention of the company to erect at present two blast furnaces of a capacity of 90 tons each per day.

The Chicago *Times* says: The entire practicability of the enterprise, and its importance to the city can be better appreciated by the following facts: While Chicago, and through Chicago, the whole northwest are heavy consumers of iron, not a ton of pig iron has ever been manufactured in the city. A portion of the needed supply has been brought from Lake Superior, where there are a number of small furnaces in operation, but the great bulk of the pig iron used comes from eastern points. The ore has been taken from Lake Superior to Detroit and Cleveland, at the extra expense of the Sault Ste Marie ship canal tolls, towage through the St. Mary's, the St. Clair and Detroit rivers, and from thence, except the small portion smelted at those two cities, it is taken to Pittsburgh to be manufactured into pig iron, to be sent to Chicago for manufacturing purposes. The great loss in extra transportation, both ways, must be quite apparent. It is certain that Lake Superior ore can be delivered in Chicago, *via* Escanaba, thus saving canal tolls and towage, for a sum not to be less than can be done either at Detroit or Cleveland. With so many manifest advantages, there is no good reason why Chicago should not become one of the great iron manufacturing cities in the country, and this enterprise seems to point to such a result. Following the move of the "Chicago Iron Company," it is reported that capitalists already contemplate the erection of many extensive nail manufactories, and the day is probably not far distant when Chicago will probably rival Pittsburgh in this very important branch of manufactures.

The Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad.

In the financial department of the New York *Times* of Monday there appears a communication relative to the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago, Pittsburgh and Connellsville, and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads, in which the writer says: When the Pennsylvania Central Railroad controlled the Legislature, they passed an act virtually prohibiting the completion of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Road beyond Connellsville. Under their auspices the Pan Handle route was bought in connection with the Great Eastern and Union and Logansport Roads, whereby they secured a new through route from Pittsburgh to Chicago, in connection with their own Fort Wayne, and adverse to the Fort Wayne Road. The latter road found itself cut off from the East at Pittsburgh, except so far as the Pennsylvania Central, interested in the new route, might give them facilities. This result would naturally exert a disastrous effect upon the value and business of the road. Within the last thirty days, however, an entire change has been put upon the face of affairs. The Supreme Court has decided that the action of the Legislature was unwarranted; the Pennsylvania has promptly restored all the privileges of the Connellsville Road, and backed by two powerful corporations—the Baltimore and Ohio and Fort Wayne—the President announces his determination and ability to complete the road to Connellsville in twelve months. This gives the Fort Wayne a direct route to the sea at Baltimore, by a line only 336 miles in length, as against 356 miles to Philadelphia, over very much lighter grades. The whole distance from Chicago to Philadelphia, *via* the new Pennsylvania Pan Handle combination route is 842 miles; from Chicago to Baltimore, *via* Fort Wayne and Connellsville route, 794 miles—a shorter line by 48 miles. The latter route will be worked in close connection and sympathy with the Fort Wayne, and really gives them superior advantages over any competing route, completely restoring their prestige and position.

Goldwin Smith's Opinion of Gen. Grant.

Prof. Goldwin Smith, in a letter to the Manchester, England, *Examiner*, on American politics, thus refers to General Grant: "The course of events seems still to point to the Presidency of General Grant. In revolutions men live fast and characters change rapidly. It would be presumption for one not on the spot to attempt to pronounce a judgment on individual claims, or, indeed, on any details of the present situation. But all that I heard of General Grant when I was in the country led me to believe that he combined the highest qualities of a soldier with the best instincts of a citizen, that he was high-minded, unselfish, wise, devoted to the Republic, thoroughly worthy of the confidence of the people, and, though not a trained statesman, likely to make a good head of the nation in peace as well as in war. Wholly pacific, indeed, his task would not, it is to be feared, at first be, for he would have to control discord in the South, if not disaffection, by military means. His magnanimity and chivalry in dealing with his enemies are a pledge that he would be the tool of no vindictive policy, while the party for which he conquered have little reason to fear that the victorious General will be false to his own laurels. It would be a happy thing indeed for the nation if he could be raised to power not as the mere candidate of a party, but by a really national vote."

The total loss by the fire at Jefferson, Texas, on the night of the 29th ult., foots up over a million dollars. The Phœnix and Ætna Insurance Companies are the chief losers.

PHILADELPHIA.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

Unanimous Declaration for Grant for President.

Curtin the Choice of the People for Vice President.

Gen. Hartranft for Auditor General.

Col. Campbell for Surveyor General

The Delegates and Electors at Large.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PHILADELPHIA, March 11, 1868.

The Republican State Convention met in the Academy of Music this morning at 10 o'clock. The building, outside and in, was handsomely adorned, and when the doors were opened a large audience of citizens filled the seats. The Convention proper occupied the stage.

Colonel Jordan, Chairman of the State Central Committee, called the Convention to order in a neat, appropriate and well defined address, when Colonel Wm. B. Mann was chosen temporary chairman. Colonel Mann addressed the Convention strongly for Grant and Curtin. Whenever their names were mentioned the applause was loud and prolonged.

During the preliminary proceedings, a dispatch was read by Colonel Jordan, announcing the victory in New Hampshire, which brought down the house tremendously.

The temporary organization having been effected, the usual motions for committees for carving out business were moved, and the convention awaited the result of their labors for the space of an hour.

When the reports were made, it was found that little was to be added to what was telegraphed last night would happen. The selection of General Lemuel Todd for President of the Convention was every way most fortunate. His speech made a profound impression, and he was many times applauded. In every respect it was a performance quite above speeches on such occasions.

There was something of a breeze when H. Bucher Swope moved that as the voice of the people of the State the Convention declare for Grant and Curtin for President and Vice President.

Mr. Errett moved to substitute Wade for Curtin, and said he wanted an opportunity to vote for him, as did others; they did not intend to be choked down.

Mr. Swope disclaimed any such intention.

Mr. Marshall was for proceeding deliberately. He expected to vote for Governor Curtin, for he knew he was the choice of the State. Having cast such a vote, he would go back to Allegheny and be sustained by his people.

The question was divided and the vote for Grant was taken amid a whirlwind of applause, with no dissenting voice.

The question was then taken on the Vice Presidency by ayes and nays. Before the call was commenced a letter was read from Governor Geary withdrawing his name. Subsequently the name of Mr. Grow was withdrawn. The call proceeded amidst the deepest interest, the delegates being applauded as they responded in proportion to the strength of the two candidates. The vote stood Curtin, 109; Wade, 22; Stanton, 1.

The announcement was followed by prolonged applause. All of the Allegheny delegation, excepting Mr. Marshall, voted for Wade.

Messrs. John F. Hartranft and Jacob M. Campbell, on motion of General Beaver, were renominated for Auditor and Surveyor General, by acclamation, and confirmed by great applause, the President remarking that the man who carried Fort Steedman would carry Pennsylvania.

The election of delegates and electors at large was speedily done, through the recommendation of a committee of ten, as the result of considerable caucusing and the overwhelming preponderance of the majority.

The following were chosen electors at large: C. Morrison Coates, of Philadelphia; Thos. M. Marshall, Pittsburgh. The following were chosen delegates at large: Col. John W. Forney, Jas. Arne, of Philadelphia; Gen. Harry White, of Indiana; E. Reed Myer, of Bradford; J. W. Blanchard, of Lawrence; Thos. E. Cochrane, of York; Linn Bartholomew, of Schuylkill, and Gen. Wm. Lilly, of Carbon.

Mr. Cochran, from the Committee on Resolutions, introduced a series of great length. The resolution instructing the delegates to Chicago to vote as a unit provoked instant opposition from the Wade men. Mr. Errett called for a division of the question and all but the resolution named were adopted.

Mr. Mann, of Potter, spoke against instruction. He said at least one hundred thousand Penn

Weekly Commercial.

Farm, Garden and Household.

HOW TO RAISE EARLY VEGETABLES.

The following practical suggestions, touching the commencing of gardening operations in the spring, are seasonable at this time:

Every farmer should early in March make a hot bed, which is indispensible to the wants of his family. Early plants, tomatoes and other kinds of vegetables, may be brought forward in the hot bed several weeks in advance of those started in the open border. I prepare a hot bed in the following manner: The earth is excavated to the depth of two and a half feet, four feet wide and six feet long, which will be large enough to furnish a good stock of plants for the use of an ordinary sized family. Place around the top of the excavation a board frame six inches high on one side, and fifteen inches on the other. Set the frame so that the slope will incline to the South. When this is done, fill the pit within six inches of the top of the ground with unfermented horse manure, leaves from the woods, or spent hops from the brewery, which must be well trodden down. Then put on the top about six inches of finely pulverized soil, rake down smoothly, put on the sashes, and your hot bed is completed. Some plant the seeds immediately, others prefer to wait until heat has been generated, which usually takes place in the course of two or three days. My practice has been for several years to plant the same day, with the following varieties of seeds: One row four feet long, running north and south, with two or three varieties of tomatoes, sticking a small stake with the name written on it, at the head of each variety; allow ten inches space, then make another row for early cabbage and lettuce—a variety of lettuce called ice drumhead is one of the best, which should be transplanted to the open border. In the third row I plant peppers and egg-plant—large bull nose is the best pepper; improved New York purple the best egg-plant. Another row is planted with celery.

The balance of the hot bed I sow in rows with early lettuce. I prefer for this purpose a variety called early curled silesia; it is the earliest and best. I then sow evenly over the whole bed the early scarlet turnip radish, which will be the first to come up, and ready for use on the table, without interfering with the growth of the other plants. The lettuce, when ready for use, should be cut off, leaving a crown to each plant, which will soon furnish another growth, and may again be cut as before. I have made six cuttings from the same plants, each successive growth more delicate than the other. To produce this result, the sash should remain on most of the time, to be removed only on a warm day.

No farmer is complete without a garden of sufficient size to grow a bountiful supply and small fruits for the use of the family, and when properly managed, it will furnish a large supply for the table throughout the season. In order to get the full benefit of seasonable vegetables, a succession of plantings must be made. When the first crop of peas is well up, a second planting should be made. This may be repeated several times with success. Early, medium and late beets should be planted at different times, to furnish a succession for the table. Sweet corn is not only a luxury, but it is nutritious and healthful. It should be planted every two weeks from the first of May to July, which will furnish a supply of green corn from July to November.

DIRECTIONS FOR BUTTER MAKING.

A practical dairyman gives the following general directions for making good butter, which thousands of farmers' wives may study with profit: As first-class housekeepers compass the same ends by different means, so first-class dairy-women make an equally good butter by different processes. But there are a few general principles which must be inflexibly followed, in order to attain the best results; and, I may also add, that of constant exercise of that intuitive common sense that good housewives are almost sure to possess:

1. Perfect cleanliness is essential in everything pertaining to milk and butter. Stabled cows frequently have their udders defiled. These must be cleaned before milking, or a portion of the disgusting offal will get into the milk, and, as a matter of course, its extract will find its way into the butter, which, it will readily be supposed, is not materially improved thereby. The milk and cream vessels must be kept sweet and pure, which usually is "done by dishwater," but well washed, every time they are used, with clean soap and water, rinsed and scalded.

2. The place where the milk, cream and butter are kept, whether cellar, vault or springhouse, must be clean, well aired, and free from all odors. Milk and cream are rapid absorbents, and nothing that creates a smell should be suffered in reach. The milk should be skimmed twice a day, and the cream well stirred.

3. The temperature of the cream in churning should not be much above or below 60°, or the butter will be soft and mushy; nor much below, or the cream will "swell," by "long coming," and often not first-rate when it does "come."

4. It must be thoroughly "worked"—that is, every drop of butter-milk should be removed—and salted to taste. If the butter-milk should not be all removed, that remaining will be decomposed with the salt, and the greasy portion uniting with the butter, the whey interspersed throughout the mass in small particles, presenting the appearance of small drops of water. Different modes are followed in different persons, for freeing the butter entirely from the milk; some by washing it several times in clean water, others by using improved butter-workers, and others by pressing it with a clean linen cloth. It matters but little what method is followed, so that the desired purpose is gained. Butter thus made throughout is tough, waxy, high flavored and toothsome.

TREATMENT OF FOWLS.

Fowls that are exposed to cold winds and storms will not lay, and no amount or variety of feed will make them; they must have a good warm house so constructed that free ventilation can be given, and a good supply of lime must be kept in it to prevent the breeding of lice, and to overcome unhealthy and impure air generating while the fowls are shut in, and also to supply the hens with the proper ingredient for making shells. Gravel, clay dust, and ashes, should be kept in boxes for their use, the gravel they require to assist in digesting their food, and the clay and ashes to wallow in, which promotes health. The feed should be varied; corn is a natural food but will not alone produce eggs. Ogir dough will be as ineffective as not giving enough, for a hen that is fat will seldom ever lay well. Mashed potatoes mixed with scalded corn meal, or buckwheat flour that hot is excellent. They should have fresh meat if possible twice a day in some form, either lard scraps, offal from the butchers, or wild game such as rabbits, squirrels, etc. The more of this kind of food given, the greater number of eggs will be secured, besides hens will never eat their eggs when furnished with all the fresh meat they want. Meats that have been cooked and highly seasoned should not be given. Pure water furnished daily is also very important, for they will not do well without it. A lump of lime dropped in the water is highly recommended by some, and for recommends for chickens, for the first week after hatching, hard-boiled eggs, to be given, chopped fine, at least twice a day, wheat steeped in milk, and coarse Indian meal, dry, crumbled, etc. A change of food is necessary twice a week, substituting cracked corn for wheat.

THE PEACH BORER AND YELLOWS.

Mr. J. M. Jenkins writes as follows to the *Horticulturist*: It may be interesting, as well as useful, to some of your readers to know of a safe and effectual method by which the fatal attacks of the peach borer may be prevented. Having tried all the plans proposed for the last five years—merely as an experiment upon neglected trees—I have found them all deficient in one thing, *i. e.* in preventing a renewal of attack. Nine years' experience fully proves to me that the waste water of salt works, called "mother liquor," or "bitter water," is a sure preventive. I will not aver that it will kill the worm when once in the tree, as my experience is not conclusive on that point, but I do assert that it has killed them by thousands when not entirely shielded by the bark. We apply it any time during the summer, but when possible, in June and last of August, putting about one pint of the liquid around the base of each tree. At the same time we wash the body and main limbs of the tree with the same liquid, which removes scales of dead bark and kills the eggs of insects.

My observations in the treatment of trees to this liquor leads me to declare to be the most powerful agent in preventing the dreaded disease known as "yellows" that has yet been discovered. Trees in a rapidly declining state from the effects of this disease, being treated to this liquor, took on a new life as it were, ceasing their yellow leaves and throwing an luxuriance healthy foliage.

PRUNING TREES IN SPRING.

When pruning trees in the spring, says the *Horticulturist*, remember that for every bud or inch of wood you cut away, two more will be formed; and if you do not so cut as to throw the elongation from the last bud on the shoot left in an outward direction, your tree will soon be a mass of shoots and branches, and cause you to oppose any practice of pruning. Another thing, if you cut away carelessly the probable continuation of each bud left at the end of the shoot pruned, you can form your tree into a round, open, compact, or spreading head, according to your fancy. We could write a whole book on this item; but our belief is that a few practical words of guidance are all that is requisite to induce thought in the good common sense of our readers.

PLOWING BY STEAM.

Steam plowing was the subject of a recent discussion before the American Institute. Mr. Jamog A. Whitney read a paper, describing the attempts which have been made to apply the skill of the engineer to the operations of the agriculturist. The greater portions of these had been directed to the problem of plowing by steam power, in which direction the inventors had achieved so little success that all plows of the sort had been gradually abandoned, nor did the writer believe that the end would ever be successfully accomplished. Several gentlemen declared, from their own personal knowledge, that steam plowing in England had proved a decided success, both in the quality and rapidity of the work performed, and the cost as compared with the old methods.

THE PRESERVATION OF EGGS.

A writer in the *Farm and Fireside* recommends the dissolving of gum shellac in alcohol, when the mixture may be applied with a common paint brush. When dry, pack in bran, point downward. Eggs so preserved will keep a very long time. When about to be used, the varnish may be washed off.

BEDDING PLANTS.

Propagate cuttings of verbenas, petunias, carnations, and other plants wanted for bedding out in the garden. Cuttings put in now will make fine strong plants by the time for planting out.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 11, 1868.

It is very pertinently remarked in the money column of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, that there may be a difference of opinion as to whether the discussions in Congress and in the newspapers of the country on the political question are worth the time and space they occupy. At the present time the Treasury holds neither paper nor gold to pay any considerable portion of the public debt, and if holders of the 5-20 six per cent. bonds are unwilling to exchange them for five per cent. bonds, the whole business is at an end. Besides this there is a growing belief, which is daily strengthened by current events, that there will be no effective legislation on any of the kindred subjects of debt, banks and currency until after the approaching Presidential election. Politics is now the absorbing theme of the times, and commands pretty much all the attention of the country as well as of Congress. Under these circumstances, it is perhaps as well that legislation on all these important subjects should be held in abeyance, and that we should "rather bear the ills we have, than fly to those we know not of." The proposition to pay the debt by a corresponding issue of currency, which found advocates a month or two ago, now meets with little favor in any intelligent quarter. Such a policy, by enlarging the base for banking, could not fail to greatly debase the currency and to demoralize business. The way to fund the debt is not by cheapening the currency as compared to gold. That would be beginning at the wrong end, and would lead farther and farther from the consummation most desired. To lighten the annual cost of carrying the debt is in effect lightening the debt itself, and the plainest, simplest and most direct way of effecting a reduction of the rate of interest, or annual cost of the debt, is by appreciating the public credit; by making a long five per cent. bond worth more to the holder than a six per cent. bond redeemable at the option of the Government. And nothing can be more effectual in working this result than a faithful observance of existing obligations. It is conceded by all intelligent, fair minded men, that the Government borrowed what it owes with the clearest understanding that the creditors were to receive payment, both principal and interest, in coin. To violate this clearly understood promise is not the way to improve credit, nor is so questionable a course necessary. The country is prolific in resources, and may so far raise its credit as to find willing lenders for all of its public debt, within its option of redemption, at five per cent. And it can in this way more easily and certainly more honestly, lighten the burden of the public debt than any other.

—An able defense of the National Banking system will be found in the columns of our paper this morning. The author views the subject from a practical stand-point, and as it is one of deep interest his communication will be eagerly read. That a large proportion of the country banks must be wound up, if the privilege of their circulation is withdrawn, no practical banker can for a moment doubt; and that such an event would be followed by a prostration of business which would place the finances and the credit of the nation in great peril, is equally beyond a question. No country of Europe has ever endured such a financial revolution, and the United States are not now in condition to hazard so perilous an experiment.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co., report the following quotations of government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morning.	Noon.	Closing
1881's	110¾	110¾	110¾
1862 5-20s	109¾	109¾	109¾
1864 5-20s	107¾	107¾	107¾
1865 5-20s, old	108	107¾	107¾
1865 5-20s, new	106¾	106¾	106¾
1867 do	106¾	106¾	106¾
10-40s	101	101	101
May '65 compounds	118	118	118
Gold	139¾	139¾	139¾

—We annex a report of the closing quotations for a week back, showing the relative decline or improvement each day:

	Mar. 5.	Mar. 6.	Mar. 7.	Mar. 9.	Mar. 10.	Mar. 11.
U. S. '81s	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾
U. S. 5-20's, 1862	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110	109¾
U. S. 5-20's, 1864	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾
U. S. 5-20's, 1865, old	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾
U. S. 5-20's (new)	106¾	106¾	106¾	106¾	106¾	106¾
U. S. 5-20's, 1867	106¾	106¾	106¾	106¾	106¾	106¾
U. S. 10-40's	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾
U. S. 6's, 1881	101¾	101¾	101¾	101¾	101¾	101¾
Gold	141	143¾	141	140¾	139¾	139¾

—The flurry in the New York stock market has spent its force. Stocks that were manœuvered up in the excitement are rapidly subsiding. The range of prices for the past week will be seen in the following table:

	March 2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	9.	10.	11.
Fort Wayne	101½	101½	101½	101½	101¼	101¼	100¾	100¾	100¾
Cleveland & Pittsb.	93	93¼	95¾	96	96	96¼	96	96¼	96
Pittsburg	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾
New York Central	127¾	130½	129½	130	129¾	130	127¾	127¾	127¾
Erie	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾
Michigan South	90¾	91¼	91¾	92¼	93¼	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾
Northwestern	74¾	75¼	75¼	75¼	75¼	75¼	75¼	75¼	75¼
Do. preferred	78¾	79	79½	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾
Rock Island	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾

Messrs. James T. Brady & Co., bankers, report the following rates for governments to-day:—Gold, 139¾; U. S. 6s, 1881, 110¾; U. S. 5-20s, 1862, 109¾; do 1864, 107¼; do 1865, 107¾; U. S. 10-40s, 101; U. S. 5-20s, January and July, 1865, 106¼; do 1867, 106¾; June 7-30s, 105¼; July 7-30s, 105¼; May Compounds 1865, 118.

—James W. Kennedy has succeeded S. S. Bryan, Esq., in the broker business, at the office lately occupied by him in the Apollo Building, No. 80 Fourth street. Stocks, promissory notes bonds, mortgages, &c., bought and sold. Loans negotiated at low rates on collaterals, such as bound dividend stocks, United States, municipal, State or railroad bonds. Being in direct telegraphic communication with the New York Stock Boards, when in session, he can execute orders for the purchase or sale of railroad stocks, Government securities, gold, &c., at the same rates and terms required by the brokers in that city.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 11, 1868.

There has been very little improvement to notice in our general markets during the past week. Prices are without material change from those noted one week ago. Grain is the only showing that is presumed that the recent rise in the river will bring in large receipts and cause some stir. Flour is dull and unchanged.

We quote as follows, which are the wholesale store prices, unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—Choice command $5 00@$5 50 ₱ bbl.

APPLE BUTTER—Sales were made at 90c ₱ gallon.

BUTTER—Receipts of choice are light and prices are unchanged. We quote at 45@50c ₱ lb, from prime to choice.

EGGS—Market prices 22@23c ₱ dozen.

HOGS—In the market steady. We quote sales of 10,000 lbs shoulders at 12c; 6,000 lbs rib sides 14c; 5,000 lbs clear sides at 15½c; 10,000 lbs S. C. hams at 17½c; 2,000 thinfried beef at 21c; 10 thieves lard at 14c; 20 barrels sugar cured hams at 19@19½c ₱ lb.

MESS PORK—We quote at $25 50 ₱ bbl.

LARD OIL—Market steady. We note sales of No. 1 extra at $1 28@1 30, and No. 2 at $1 ₱ gallon.

CHEESE—We have reported sales of Goshen at 18@19c; Western Reserve at 15c ₱ lb, and Hamburg at 13c ₱ lb.

DRIED PEACHES—Sales reported of peaches at 10½@12c ₱ lb, and apples at 7¼@8c ₱ lb, as to quality and amount of sale.

POTATOES—We note a sale of 1 car peachblows at $1 10 ₱ bushel, and from store several lots sold at $1 05@1 25 ₱ bush.

CRANBERRIES—We quote cultivated worth $15@17 00 ₱ barrel.

HOMINY—Sales reported of 8 bbls flint at $6 50 ₱ bbl.

FISH—We note sales of 150 half bbls lake herring at $5 95, and 50 bbls white fish at $7 40 each.

BAGGING—Sales reported of 100 dozen good Western No. 2 at $2 50 ₱ dozen.

SALT—A barrel here is generally estimated at 305 lbs, but there is no particular standard. We note sales of 200 bbls, in a lot, from cars at $1 80 ₱ bbl.

GRAIN—Since our last report there has been no particular change. The demand for oats is good at 66c, and from store at 68@70c ₱ bush. Corn from first hands is quoted at 95c, and from store at $1 00 ₱ bush. We quote rye from first hands at $1 60 ₱ bush. Barley is scarce and in demand at $2 00@2 10 ₱ bush. Wheat is purchased by millers at $2 43@2 45 for red winter and $2 50@2 55 for white wheat.

FLOUR—Prices are unchanged and market dull. We quote choice winter family at $12 00@12 50; good spring at $10 00@11 25 and medium at $9 50@10 25 ₱ bbl.

CORN MEAL—From store sales were made at $1 10 ₱ bush. A fresh good article commands from the mill $1 25 ₱ bush.

RYE FLOUR—Dull at $8 ₱ bbl.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—We quote at $4 00@4 25 ₱ hundred.

Groceries.

Business wears a better aspect and prices of some descriptions of goods are higher. Dealers have imported largely, and the stocks now have their equal in the Eastern market, with good supplies on the way. Holders, however, are firm in their views. New Orleans molasses and sugar scarce in all markets, and no diminution in their value can take place.

We quote:

COFFEE—Old Government Java, in bags, 38c; in mats, 39c; Laguayra, 28@27c; Rio, choice 27c; prime, 26c; good, 23c; roasting, 20@22c.

SUGARS—Porto Rico, 14@15c; Cuba, 13@14½c; Sugar House, 11½@12½c; Granulated, 18c; Powdered, 16c; Crushed, 16c; A, 15½c; extra C, 15½c; C, 15c; New Orleans 14@15½c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, 85@95c; Porto Rico, 70@80c; Cuba, 60@70c; Demerara, 85c.

SYRUP—Lovering's, $1 00; other choice brands, $1 00; fair to good, 60@85c; golden drops, $1 00.

TEAS—Young Hyson, common to finest, 90c@$ 1 85; Imperial and Gunpowder, do, $1 25@2 00; Japan, do, 90c@$1 25; Oolong, 90c@$1 75.

RICE—Carolina, 11½@13c; Rangoon, 10½@11½c.

VINEGAR—Pure white wine vinegar, in original packages, 75c; common 25@30c.

FISH—No. 1 Shore at the season, $20; No. 2 Shore $16; No. 1 Bay do, $22; No. 2 Bay do, $17; No. 3 large do, $14 00; Lake Herring, $8 75; White Fish, $6 75. Codfish, 6@6½c ₱ lb.

SODA—English Bicarb 8c. American 8c.

SPICES—Pimento, 35c; Pepper, 38c; Cloves, 45c; Nutmegs, $1 60; Cassia, 80@85c.

SOAP—McKeon, Van Haagen & Co.'s Chemical Office, 10c; Babbitt's, 10c; Oakley's, 12½c.

LYE—Concentrated Lye, ₱ 25.

CANDLES—Proctor & Gamble's star candles, 28c for full weight; mould candles, ₱ lb, 19c.

INDIGO—Madras 90@$1 50; Manilla 50@$1 45.

BAR LEAD—12½c.

DROP SHOT—13c.

New Orleans Market.

NEW ORLEANS, March 11.—Cotton quiet and firm; middling 26c; sales 1,000 bales. Sugar and molasses dull and unchanged.

FAMILY MARKET.

LIVING EXPENSES IN PITTSBURGH.

CAREFULLY REVISED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 11, 1868.

The following are the retail prices current for the various articles, of the best quality, entering into daily family consumption:

BREAD AND CRACKERS.

Wheat loaf, each	10	Dyspepsia Crackers ₱ lb	15
Rye " "	10	Cream "	40
Boston Crackers, ₱ lb	15	Lemon Wafer, ₱ lb	15
Wine " "	15	Nuttings, ₱ lb	15
Soda " "	15	Ginger Snaps, " "	15
Oyster " "	13	Pilot Bread, " "	15
Wafer " "	13	Almond Nuts, " "	25
Butter " "	15	Fancy Crackers " "	30
Sugar " "	15	Cracker Meal " "	15
Graham " "	15	Jumbles " "	15
French " "	20		

BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS.

Butter, print, ₱ lb	50@60	Eggs, hen, ₱ doz	21
" Prime Roll	50	Dutch Cheese, ₱ doz	20@22
Pine Apple Cheese ₱ lb	40	Cheese, Goshen	23
"	40	Cheese, com'n Ohio	20

FISH—FRESH.

Lake Salmon	15	Haddock	8@10
White Fish	15	Pike	15
Herring	10	Cod Fish	10
Catfish	10@12	Eels	15@20
Suckers	8@10	Halibut	20@30

FISH—DRY, SHELL, SMOKED, ETC.

Cod, dry, ₱ lb	8@10	Mackerel, No. 2	
Codfish, 2½ lb cans, each	40	" No. 3 ₱ lb	8@10
" Cove and Spiced Oysters, ₱ can, 1 lb	30	White Fish, ₱ lb	10
Fresh Cove and Spiced Oysters, ₱ can, 2 lbs	40	Salmon, smoked, ₱ lb	30
Mackerel, No. 1 shore in kits	$3 50	" pickled, ₱ lb	25
		Halibut, smoked ₱ lb	20

FLOUR, MEAL, &c.

Extra Family, in bags	$13 50	Corn Starch, ₱ paper	15
Extra Family, in bags	$3 35	Pearl Hominy, ₱ lb	10
Self raising, ₱ 12 lb bag	1 00	Indian Meal, ₱ bush	1 50
Sago	10	Farina	10
Fancy St. Louis flour ₱ bbl	$16 00	Buckwheat flour, ₱ lb	8
Rye Flour ₱ lb		Rye Flour ₱ lb	6

FRUITS, NUTS, ETC., DRY.

Apples ₱ lb		Assorted Jellies in tumblers	35
Almonds	60	Pickles, in jars, 30, 50	60
Raisins ₱ lb	30@40	Pickles, ₱ bottle, 25	30
Peaches	12@15	Filberts	30
English Walnuts	30	Currants	30
Grenoble Walnuts	20	Dates	30
Dried cherries, ₱ lb	25	Figs	30 to 40
Prunes (cooking)	20	Pared Peaches ₱ lb	35
Dried Blackberries ₱ lb	20	Dried Plums, ₱ lb	20

FRUITS—GREEN, CANNED; OILS, JELLIES, ETC.

Apples ₱ bl peck	20@30	Assorted Jellies in tumblers	40
Lemons ₱ doz	60	Pickles, in jars, 30, 50	60
Green corn, Wins-low's	20	Pickles, ₱ bottle, 25	30
Strawberr's, 2½ lb cans	50	Sandine, ₱ bottle, 25	30
Blackber's, "	50	Sandines, ₱ box	25
Peach, "	50	Tomatoes 3 lb cans	50
Quinces, "	50	Tomatoes 2 lb cans	40
Apricots, "	50	Chow-chow ₱ pint	25
Gooseberries, "	50	Boneless Sardines	

GROCERIES.

Coffee, choice Rio ₱ lb	28	Imperial	2.00@2 50
" Roast Rio ₱ lb	30	Gun Powder	1.00@1 50
Java	40	Soda ₱ lb	20
African ₱ lb	50	Candles, star ₱ lb	20
Sugar, fair to prime ₱ lb	12@13	Candles, sperm	50
" light	15@18	Lard ₱ lb	18
" crush'd and powdered	19	Lard Oil, ₱ gal	90
Molasses, N. Orleans ₱ gal	90	Starch, ₱ lb	12@15
Rice, ₱ gal	90	Macaroni, Italian	20
New Orleans	1 10	Vermicelli	20
Cuba	90	Do. American	20
Sorghum	90	Tapioca ₱ lb	20
Tea, Oolong, ₱ lb	1 00@1 50	Saleratus, Church's	13
Egg Breakfast		" Lovering's	1 25
Do. F.	1 50@1 75	" Dwight's	1 25
Eng. Souchong	1 00@1 50	" Common	1 00
Young Hyson	1 50@2 00	Shaker corn, ₱ lb	25
Fongtai	1 40		

MEATS—FRESH.

Sirloin, ex cut ₱ lb	20@25	Leg of Mutton, ₱ lb	15
Rib Roast, do ₱ lb	20@25	Fore Quarter, ₱ lb	10@12
Round ₱ lb	20	Veal Cutlets, ex ₱ lb	25
Chuck Rib, ₱ lb	16	Veal, do ₱ lb	20
Cross Rib, ₱ lb	16@12	Roast Veal, ₱ lb	15@20
Plate and Navel	10	Spring Chickens, ₱ pair	50
Liver ₱ lb	5@8	Ribbeys, each	10@25
Hearts, each	10	Sweet bread ₱ pair	15@20
Pork, ₱ lb	16@18	Sweet bread ₱ pair	15@20
Mutton Chops	12½	Turkeys (dressed) each	75
Mutton, Leg	12½@15	Calves heads, each	15@20
Liver Pudding	12½		

MEATS—SALT, SMOKED, ETC.

Dried Beef, ₱ lb	25	Tongues, smoked	
Breakfast bacon	25	" cod, each	75@85
Hams	20@22	Sausages, ₱ lb	20
Shoulders	18	Pigs feet, ₱ set	25@35
Sides, clear	18	Lard, in kits	15@20
Corned Beef	10 to 15	Sliced Ham, ₱ lb	25
Hogshead cheese, ₱ lb	20		

POULTRY AND GAME.

Dressed Chickens, ₱ pair	1.00@1 10	Dressed Geese, each	.80@$1 10
Turkeys, each	1.25@2 00	Live Chickens, ₱ pair	.75@$1 00
Dressed Ducks, ₱ pair	1 25@1 50		

SPICES OF A PURE QUALITY.

Cinnamon, ₱ lb	$0 50	Cayenne, ₱ lb	$1 00
Alspice, ₱ lb	40	Mace, ₱ lb	2 00
Ginger, ₱ lb	60	Nutmegs, ₱ lb	2 00
Cloves, ₱ lb	60	Saffron, ₱ oz	60
Pepper, ₱ lb	50	Jamaica Ginger, ₱ lb	75

MISCELLANEOUS.

Brooms, each	25 to 50	Wine Vinegar	90
Pickles, ₱ doz	15@20	Cord, ₱ bush	10
Baking Powders, ₱ box	35	Clothes Pins, ₱ gr	50
Matches, ₱ gross	30 to 60	Jar	3.00@4
Butter's Extract, ₱ bottle	30 to 35	Pickled Salmon, ₱ each	2 25
Concentrated Lye, ₱ box	20	Liquid Rennet, ₱ bottle	25
Babbitt's Washing Powder, ₱ lb	15	Starch (Manila lax), each	.90@$1 00
Soap, ₱ lb	10	White Fish, ₱ lb	10
Wooden Bkts, each	30 to 40	Salmon, smoked, ₱ lb	30
Tubs, each	30 to 45	Wheaton Grits, ₱ lb	25
CiderVinegar	50	Cloth pins, 6 doz	25

VEGETABLES, ROOTS, ETC.

Parsnips, ₱ bunch	5	Cabbages, ₱ head	5 to 20
Carrots, ₱ bunch	5	Horse radish, ₱ lb	12 to 20
Beets, ₱ doz	12	Tomatoes, ₱ can	25
Soup beans, ₱ qt	15	hr. peck	50
Shell beans, ₱ qt	12	Turnips, ₱ bbl peck	75
Potatoes, ₱ bush		Celery, ₱ head	10
Onions, ₱ bush	25	Lettuce, ₱ head	10 to 12
Parsley, ₱ bunch	5	New Rhubarb, ₱ bunch	5
Onions, ₱ half peck	10	Radishes, ₱ bunch	5 to 10
Cranberries, ₱ qt	15 to 20		

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, March 12, 1868.

BUSINESS.—The market yesterday was a dull one, showing a material contrast as compared with the previous day. Oil at present is certainly a very unsettling article, and it is difficult to say what may bring forth. Eastern dispatches furnished the following quotations: Philadelphia—P. L. S to W. 22c; white, 23½@24c; Elevator, 25c; Buffalo, 24c; New York—P. L. S to white, 25c; S white, 26c; crude, 14@15c. Oil City market quiet but firm at $11@$12 ₱ barrel.

CRUDE OIL—Buyers yesterday did not appear so anxious to invest. They were offering lower figures. The only sales reported were 240 barrels dark, spot, at 8c; sales 2,000 barrels March, refiners' option, at 9c; for April delivery, 8c was offered and not asked. The market closed dull.

REFINED OIL—The market was dull. Buyers made up their minds to hold off, at least for the present. We omit figures, as they would have no bearing on the market.

PETROLEUM MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

The supply of crude continues very light, and the market is firm at 13½@14c in bulk; sales of 2,000 bbls at 13¾@14c now in store during the past week, and 1,200 do in shipping order, 17¼c cash. Refined in bond has been quiet—there is but little offering on the market, and holders generally (except for April delivery, when there is about one-half a cent above the views of buyers; the sales are 2,500 bbls S. W. at 23½c; 1,000 do in bulk, for April; and 1,000 do in bulk, for May, on private terms. Of free, 150 bbls S. W. sold at 42c.

Stock in yard March 2—

	1868.	1867.
Crude	bbls. *10,893	16,805
Refined	" 25,341	25,200
Naphtha	" 6,378	946
Wilmington	" 4,000	700

Total ..... bbls 46,612 41,144
Stock February 1 ..... 80,868 61,052

*Including 5,660 bbls Crude and 9,600 bbls Refined on shipboards.

PHILADELPHIA.

There has been less activity, says the *Commercial List*, of Saturday, in the refining during the past week, but holders at the close were firmer in their views, and we advance our quotations for refined in bond as well as for free oil, 50@55c ₱ gallon. Sales of 2,000 bbls, free, on private options, during the month; 1,500 bbls at 18½@18¾c on the spot; 1,000 bbls in new oak bbls at 16½c; 1,000 bbls in poor packages, at 15c; and 4,000 bbls in bond at 23½c, 45 gravity, 46 gravity at the latter price. In refined the transactions have been quite moderate, amounting to 5,000 bbls snow white on the spot at 25c; 1,500 bbls do at 24½c, second half of March, buyers' option; 1,000 bbls first half March, at 23½c, buyers' option; 1,000 bbls do do at 24c, buyers' option; 2,000 bbls do do secret terms; 1,000 bbls first half of March, at 23½c, buyers' option; 1,000 bbls do do at 24c, buyers' option; 500 bbls S. W., for May, at 24½c, buyers' option; 2,000 bbls do do secret terms; 1,000 bbls S. W. for August at 27½c, buyers' option; 1,000 bbls for September at 28c, buyers' option; 1,000 bbls for October at 28½c; 500 bbls each month, May to December, at 25½c, buyers' option, and advancing ½c each month; 500 bbls each month, May to December, at 26c, buyers' option, and advancing ½ cent, each month; and 1,000 bbls S. W., at the year, at buyers' option. Of crude, the market closed firm at 12½c for S. W. on the spot; 24c for April; 12½c for May; and 13c for June. Of naphtha, commands 40@42c. In Naptha we notice sales of 1,000 bbls at 12c, buyers' option, during the month; fluidum is steady at $2 20@$2 50, without sales. Lubricating oils are worth 50@55c for Valvoline; 35@40c for Longmoor; and 30@32c for Mount Farm.

The receipts for the week were 7,300 bbls crude, and 5,925 bbls refined. The exports were 47,340 gallons refined; 68,598 gallons crude, and 65,560 gallons naphtha. Total exports from the United States since the opening of the year, 1,847,671 gallons, against 6,224,267 gallons same time in 1867.

Petroleum at Boston.

The market for petroleum during the past week at the three principal Atlantic cities has been, says the *Bulletin*, very different in character. That of Philadelphia being dull and lifeless of New York strong and an advance of ½c established on a small supply and brisk demand; of this city weak and inanimate, quoting crude nominally at 14c, 18c for refined, and 25@28c for standard white. The markets abroad are reported as being strong, but neither the telegrams from Antwerp or London seem to have any favorable effect upon the market at home, as no large supply orders come to buy up the hopes of holders. Our refiners are doing but little trade, and the "sell" men believe in the future; the weak parties almost gone, and have gone under, and the stocks are stronger, and more able to hold on for the rise that is to be. We see no reason to believe that the present apathy to be succeeded during this month by a far more lively feeling and largely enhanced prices.

We quote crude petroleum firmer at 13c ₱ gal in bulk, and moving slowly at 17¾c, in bbls. Refined oil in bond is not quite so firm, with sales at 23@23½c ₱ gal for October, for Boston, New York and Canada; and cases for shipment to Southern latitudes. Free oil is in moderate demand, and firm at 40@42c for Western, 44@45c for Boston, and 48c for Downer's kerosene. Naphtha in fair demand, with sales at a range of 17@23c ₱ gallon, as to gravity. Residuum is nominal at $3 75@4 25 ₱ bbl.

Cincinnati Provision Circular.

George W. Phillips, Jr., in his last circular says that during the early part of the past week provisions were a little excited, and prices advanced a shade, but with quotations for the present week, as the large stock offered for future delivery tamed the market somewhat, and the weak holders let go freely, while those who could hold tolerably closely and seem to be still bullish, the result is a order to make sales some slight concessions would have to be made. I have nothing more to say of hogs, as there is nothing doing except by butchers, who are buying at from 8 to 9½c gross, 200 lbs the average.

Mess Pork—Has been in speculative demand at $24 25 for city, but no choice brands could be had under $24 50. Choice country 25 to 50c less ₱ bbl.

Hams—Have sold from $17 up to $19 ₱ bbl according to their quality.

Lard—Has rather declined, closing with no buyers over 15c, while holders demand ¼ to ½c more for choice city kettle rendered, and 15c less for steam, but can be still had at 14½@14¾c on the spot, 15@15½c for the range of grades dark to white.

Bulk Meats—Have been in moderate demand at 10, 12, 12½ and 13c for shoulders, sides, clear rib and clear sides, all loose. Hams 13½ to 14c, packed. Sweet pickled hams scarce at 16c.

Bacon—During the early part of the week was active, and large sales were made to come out of smoke at prices but little below what could be realized today.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1868.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.....$2 00
Six clubs of twenty, per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

THE IMPEACHMENT.

We learn from Washington that the Court of Impeachment was fully organized on the 6th and the President required to answer on the 13th of March—being a notice of one week. In fact, however, he has had the benefit of notice from the day on which the House resolved to bring him to trial.

In some respects the trial about to take place in Washington, if not the most important, is certainly one of the most important incidents in the history of the country.

And many circumstances combine to render the occasion one of intense and wide reaching interest. The Senate of the United States is about to sit as a court for the trial of the chief functionary of the Government, charged with high crimes and misdemeanors. Over this Court the Chief Justice of the United States will preside. The alleged criminal is himself a co-ordinate branch of the Government—the official whose duty it is to execute and make effective the enactments of the Legislature. The great end of every court is to do justice; and the humblest citizen of the country possesses an unquestionable and inalienable right to receive justice. When the Senate sits as a court, and the person brought before its bar happens to be the President of the United States, the end of its session and the claim of the accused are precisely the same as in the case of the smallest court and the most obscure individual in the land. The one is entitled to justice, and justice the other is bound to render. Though all this is true enough, every one will admit that the consequences of failure in duty, or of transgressing right in the two cases, are of different moment. In both, these consequences are lamentable and much to be deprecated. But the proceedings of the Senate as a high court of justice will be watched and scrutinized not only by the whole country, but by foreign nations. The reputation of the nation is staked on the moderation, conscientiousness and dignity with which the court conducts the process. This consideration is important, but of still greater moment is the fact that these proceedings will go upon record as precedents which may mould and influence the whole subsequent history of the United States. How tremendous then the responsibility resting upon each member of the court, and each person having anything to do with the trial! Every patriot will earnestly desire that all may act, and that every step in the proceedings may be conducted in the spirit of truth and justice; that no selfish, or ambitious, or unworthy motives may be permitted to affect the resolute determination of every one engaged in the transaction, neither to say nor do anything which will not bear the closest and most hostile examination. Should supposed exigencies of party, or personal pique, or unfairness in any of its forms, or any other than the most exact and rigorous justice, be allowed to mingle with, or influence the actions of the Court, or even to seem to sway the conduct of single members, the effect would be disastrous. The moral impression of the punishment inflicted by the sentence would be destroyed.

And should acquittal of the accused be the verdict of the court, the prevalent conviction of the nation that its members have been actuated by the spirit of truth and rectitude, will cause general acquiescence in that result. Therefore, let fairness reign throughout the sessions of the court, and justice be done, though the heavens should fall.

PITTSBURGH AND PHILADELPHIA.

Lately the press of Philadelphia have been aroused to the importance of preserving the railway connections of that city, and the trade of the interior and the West. We feel gratified at this, and feel that our efforts to draw the attention of our great sea-board city to what, through supineness, it has lost and is liable to lose, have been instrumental in producing a feeling there, of which the following, quoted from the *Press*, is a promising indication:

> The passage of the Connellsville Railroad bill makes a direct railway route from Pittsburgh to Baltimore not only a certainty, but almost an accomplished fact. It will be the short road to the sea, and it is useless to shut our eyes to the fact that it will direct from Philadelphia a very large portion of the trade of the West. That Baltimore is thus tapping the western section of our State just as New York has the northeastern, we have already complained. At the rate of commerce. Trade can be led only by enterprise, energy and pluck. If we are outstripped by rival competitors we have no one to blame but ourselves. The admission of the Railroad of this Baltimore drainage would probably be the construction of a drain that would intercept and carry off its current. Starting at Connellsville and coming east by Somerset, Cambria, Little Town, and Bedford to Chambersburg, we would have a road already almost completed, developing a rich and comparatively untouched section of our State, and which prolonged in time through Gettysburg, would offer an exceedingly direct and available route from Pittsburgh to our port. We already stand at the head of the railroad States of the Union, having within our borders more miles of railway than any other. Let it not be our misfortune that the last element to the local trade of the sea-board towns of other States.

Resolved, That we recognize with emotions of the deepest gratitude the efforts of the gallant Volunteer Soldiers who so freely took up arms to defend the flag, and prevent the destruction of the Union, and that we denounce as an insult to them the efforts of the Radicals to prevent a restoration of the Union until negro supremacy is established in certain States, and negro equality made the rule in all.

Who voted this resolution does the reader suppose? Doubtless it must be the expression of the opinion of a body largely composed of men who sent their sons to recruit the armies of the Union, and who liberally contributed their money to sustain the same armies in the field. The reader who thus guesses betrays a want of acquaintance with the limits of mortal audacity. The resolution was passed by the Democratic Convention which met the other day at Harrisburg. Even as SCAPIN used to vent his most elevated sentiments just after he had perpetrated one piece of rascality and was planning another, or to take an illustration more familiar to most of our readers, as the distinguished PECKSNIFF was wont to discourse to his lovely and interesting daughters his most beautiful morality in his most unctuous manner at the time when his hypocrisy was in most peril of being unmasked, even so our Democratic friends, SCAPIN and PECKSNIFF both hoped to cause their real characters to be forgotten in admiration or recognition of their fine sentiments. "Can one be wicked and talk so nice?" naturally asks the song. The Democrats evidently hope that in respect for their patriotic words the people will forget that in the time of the country's terrible trials these same wordy patriots not only refused to take up arms themselves but denounced the gallant volunteers who did, and also did all in their power to countenance their enemies.

MR. JEFFERSON DAVIS and Major General HANCOCK have been riding out together in New Orleans, receiving the homage of the unreconstructed. This is the highest bid yet for the Presidency, but the higher are HANCOCK's bids of this sort, the lower he will go in the estimation of his loyal countrymen. It certainly argues something decidedly wrong in the man that he should thus outrage the loyal sentiment of the nation. Whether the seat of the difficulty be in the region of the head or the heart, the fact is equally inexcusable. It is understood that the Pennsylvania Democracy will likely enough go for HANCOCK in the National Convention. After this devotion to JEFF. DAVIS they can hardly refuse. But let him be the nominee and he will have as much reason to regret that ride as EARLY had for regretting SHERIDAN's ride to Winchester.

JAY COOKE & Co. have written a letter in opposition to the proposition to pay the United States bonds in greenbacks, in case the holders refuse to convert them into the proposed new issue. In it is maintained that "the bonds were offered directly to the people and sold to them at prices which could not possibly have been obtained but for the distinct understanding that they were payable, *principal and interest in coin*." The writer with great force says:

> If the Government should pay in greenbacks, what is a greenback but a promise to pay a dollar, and if 500,000,000 of greenbacks should be issued and if 500,000,000 of greenbacks should be issued to pay the 5-20s, must we not afterward pay them, and if so, to what but gold? Such an issue of paper money, every thinking man knows, would totally unsettle values and indefinitely remove the resumption of specie payment. But, on the other hand, without any increase of currency, in a reasonable time specie payment will be resumed, gold and greenbacks will be in equal value, and to pay the bonds in gold will be no hardship.

As to who are the holders of the bonds, data is given going to show that "the capitalists are in very small minority, and any legislation repudiating, in whole or in part, the obligation of the bonds of the Government would fall most severely upon widows, orphans and people of small capital, who invested their money in those securities in perfect reliance upon the representations made to them by the Treasury Department, directly and through its agents at the time of their issue."

SENATOR SHERMAN's speech on the financial question is likely to arrest quite as much attention abroad as at home. The essence of it as to the redemption of 5-20 bonds is contained in the single sentence wherein he says: "Equity and justice are amply satisfied if we redeem these bonds at the end of five years in the same kind of money, of the same intrinsic value it bore at the time they were issued." As to his bill for an exchange of the old bonds for a new one at a reduced rate of interest, he held this language:

> "We leave the bondholders to stand precisely as they are, and they will be paid their six per cent. interest in gold until their bonds are redeemed, and they can not be redeemed under existing laws without further legislation, and that legislation will have to be provided by the present Congress at its next session or by some future Congress. All that the Committee on Finance do in this bill and, perhaps, in discussing the other points I have gone before, is the necessity of the case—as to offer to all the public creditors these new bonds in exchange for the old, to be done without expense to the government, to be done without sacrifice by any one, leaving every man to judge for himself whether his interest and substantial equity would not be promoted by this exchange. If he does not do it he stands by his bond, and the next session will decide the question whether the redemption of these bonds shall be postponed to some indefinite future when we may be able to pay gold for what we received in depreciated paper. We do not decide it and do not undertake to decide it, but we simply submit that option."

THE release of the bondsmen of JEFFERSON DAVIS, probably extinguishes all hope that the great traitor will ever be held to answer for the crime of treason; and one of the things which thousands will treasure up against Chief Justice CHASE is, that from the first he has chosen that it should be so. With another man for Chief Justice, DAVIS would have been tried long ago, and if not punished, at least the question would have been settled whether or not the right to secede inheres with our form of Government, and whether or not any crime was committed when the South rebelled. As it is nobody has been punished, no principle has been settled. As it stands, whoever gets up a rebellion runs no risk of being punished, and the plea that secession is a right is as good as ever it was.

MILES O'REILEY, in the New York *Citizen*, has "authority for stating definitely that under no circumstances will Mr. SEYMOUR permit the use of his name" for the Presidency. MILES thinks he has some authority—"not absolute, however"—for saying GEN. SHERMAN will consent to be the Democratic candidate. There is better authority for saying that under no circumstances will SHERMAN run against GRANT. After SHERMAN, says MILES, comes Mayor HOFFMAN, who, we suspect, is in some danger; though WOODWARD of this State may prevent him from being struck by the Presidential lightning by stepping in ahead—to which end there is a scheme on foot.

SOMETHING must be wrong with the Democratic, greenback-repudiation PENDLETON-ian machinery, or the State Convention at Harrisburg on Wednesday, after all the howling we have heard, surely would not have ground out such a grist of dilution as the following:

> *Resolved*, That the national debt should be paid as rapidly as is consistent with the terms of the laws on which the several loans are based.

Could there be anything more tame than this? As the next thing to nothing at all, we may safely assume that it is about the last we shall hear of Mr. PENDLETON's doctrine of an unlimited issue of greenbacks to pay off our obligations.

ONE of the noticeable things about the resolutions of the Democratic State Convention is that they reserved all their denunciation for the Republican party, and forgot entirely to say as much as a single word in condemnation of the rebellion. It is not a harsh judgment that had they spoken their real sentiments an expression of sympathy would have been given for the rebels now suffering the consequences of their attempt to break up the Union.

THE Democrats in their State Convention let severly alone the question of Presidential candidate. They instructed their delegates to "vote as a unit for the candidates for President and Vice President and the platform," but indulged in no expression of preference. In this the PENDLETON-ites sustained a defeat, and the action of the Convention swells the proof that Mr. PENDLETON is not so much of a "coming man" as he was.

NEW YORK CITY, with its fifty thousand Democratic majority, is filled with Southern sympathisers, but they are the cheap sort, who talk much, and, except in the way of great riots, act little. A few evenings since a meeting was held to aid General Lee's college. The call was numerously signed and all sorts of sympathy pledged; but the meeting was nearly a failure, Mr. Beecher finding himself quite alone. If General Lee's college depends for life on New York city, it will not live long. The unterrified there would sooner burn than build a college. On this occasion Mr. Beecher displayed his zeal to little advantage.

A WRITER in the New York *Journal of Commerce* asserts that "not content with monopolizing the leading railroads of the country, Mr. Vanderbilt's ambition covets yet more power. Through his minions he has control of some of the oldest and most conservative banking institutions, which, a few years since, under more prudent direction, would have recoiled at the thought of such association." The *Times*, however, is disinclined to believe that there is any ground whatever for the above suspicion. That paper says the suggestion will be new to his acquaintance; the banking ambition is not in his line.

THE President's organ, the *National Intelligencer*, has dropped the defiant tone it assumed a few days since in regard to impeachment, and now whines pathetically over Mr. Johnson, asserting that he is a persecuted individual to whom posterity will do justice. It boasts that the enemies of Andrew Johnson have failed ingloriously to trump up a single charge against his honesty and integrity. It also smears Chief Justice Chase over with fulsome praise for his letter to the Senate, which the *Intelligencer* thinks was written in "admirable temper."

THE Legislature of West Virginia has adjourned, after passing one hundred and ninety-six laws. Among them is an act to reduce the rate of taxation for State purposes, from thirty-cents on the one hundred dollars value, to twenty cents. The bill to alter (and in effect reduce) the valuation of lands, as fixed by the board of equalization, was lost in the Senate, so that the tax will hereafter be twenty cents on the one hundred dollars on the new valuation as corrected by that Board.

WENDELL PHILLIPS, for more than two years, has shrieked for impeachment. Now that impeachment has come—not, however, because he shrieked—Phillips may be relied on to to commence shrieking against what will inevitably follow impeachment—a Republican administration. In fact, he has already struck the key note, and for the present diverts himself with denouncing the Senate for not suspending the President at once.

IT is rumored that the New York and Erie has canceled the arrangement with the New York Central and Pennsylvania Central, and will immediately reduce the rates. It begins to be the opinion that the upshot of the present legal imbroglio will be that the Erie road will pass into the hands of a Receiver. In view of everything what must be the public opinion concerning Mr. Daniel Drew's connection with the affairs of the company?

A WRITER cracking up the growth and population of Chicago remarks that "when it is considered that the present population is variously estimated at from 220,000 to 250,000, and we give only the lowest estimate, it seems fair to presume that the accelerated ratio of increase indicated in its past growth will make the population of Chicago in 1870, 270,000; in 1876, 600,000; in 1890, 1,000,000."

Interesting Revenue Statistics.

The following exhibit of revenue collected from distilled spirits, which has been compiled from official sources and presented to the Ways and Means Committee, shows the receipts of the principal districts of the country for the last four months of 1867 as compared with those of 1866:—

September, October and November, 1865.

First District, Ohio	$1,389,906
Seventh District, Missouri	905,642
First District, California	520,604
Thirtieth District, New York	33,874
Third District, Massachusetts	124,018
Fourteenth District, New York	221,341
First District, Illinois	490,348
Third District, Maryland	386,589
First District, Pennsylvania	185,772
Thirty-second District, New York	1,155,036
Total	$5,611,057

September, October and November, 1867.

First District, Ohio	$ 421,948
Seventh District, Missouri	286,468
First District, California	420,324
Thirtieth District, New York	90,084
Third District, Massachusetts	66,486
Fourteenth District, New York	10,430
First District, Illinois	225,502
Third District, Maryland	104,700
First District, Pennsylvania	800,870
Thirty-second District, New York	129,736
Total	$2,540,332
Decrease	$3,070,725.

Net taxable income upon which Internal Revenue taxes were collected during 1865, 1866 and 1866–1867:

	1865–1866.	1866–1867.	Increase.	Decrease
N Y City	$117,308,163	$130,941,536	$13,633,373	
Phila	61,376,643	51,193,359		$10,993,284
Boston	42,490,958	51,920,382	9,429,424	
Brooklyn	34,894,899	33,670,349		1,224,550
Cincinnati	23,057,116	16,679,826	6,467,510	
Pittsb'h	22,962,667	20,382,292		2,080,375
Chicago	17,276,721	18,446,914	4,769,221	
Baltim'e	18,184,368	18,267,510	83,202	
Newark	13,082,622	12,581,204	1,104,686	
St. Louis	14,288,294	13,027,031		1,271,263
Detroit	12,476,791	17,733,324	5,256,590	
San Fr'co	12,137,955	13,526,903	1,388,948	
Louisv'e	9,586,754	9,912,751	325,997	
Albany	8,780,170	9,784,232	1,004,062	
Buffalo	7,701,053	5,480,891		2,174,208
Cleveland	6,896,365	9,276,064	2,241,142	
Detroit	5,500,635	4,593,268		907,367
Milw'kee	4,407,321	6,846,961	2,034,640	
Maine	5,219,833	5,127,492		92,043
Hoboken	3,673,789	3,470,345	427,755	
Vermont	3,758,543	3,678,897		79,646
Mass	22,660,674	17,307,829	25,115,745	
Connect't	4,922,869	4,731,861	8,015,844	
Rhode Isl'd	14,722,350	20,227,612	5,505,262	
N. J.				
States	$482,810,159	$481,849,429	$30,210,259	$171,989

Net increase of '66-7 over '65-6 $30,038,270

New York	$262,753,762	$264,149,610	$11,395,848	
Boston	58,655,716	51,876,393		$1,677,380
Penn	133,771,276	107,466,926		26,310,390
Ohio	78,894,448	72,668,879		6,285,569
Illinois	31,764,225	31,611,897		4,152,327
Maryland	23,809,294	23,038,147		2,861,147
M. States	518,604,807	491,079,289	11,866,858	38,421,408
				11,866,858

Net decrease of 1866-7 as compared with 1865-6 $27,055,908

Illinois	$2,657,961	$10,062,365		$3,675,496
Indiana	1,966,961	3,977,457		10,010,496
Iowa	8,934,299	6,606,972		2,327,327
Kentucky	12,194,521	11,637,194		4,557,327
Michigan	13,641,753	10,794,885		2,846,867
Minnesota	1,790,931	1,680,820		1,790,931
Wisconsin	8,365,830	10,419,634	2,054,045	
Kansas	2,153,754	2,264,028	110,274	
Nebraska	1,169,424	1,461,716	292,292	
Va.	3,926,506	3,701,296		225,210
W. Va.	1,997,556	1,722,556	274,000	
Colorado	1,357,964	1,357,503	461	
Idaho	846,778	774,697	72,487	
Montana	846,778	374,697		472,081
Nebraska	494,248	669,968		24,438
N. Mexico	457,460	603,238		25,778
Utah	427,990	351,649		81,380
Territories				
After's.	$263,489,281	$289,667,871	$6,900,880	$27,722,290
				6,900,880
				$20,821,410

Net decrease of 1866-1867, compared with 1865-1866 of

Ten sev.	$ 3,143 09	$ 7,856,306		$ 7,853,163
Ten f. c.	1,627 09	1,627,609		
5 c. c.	13,964	1,170,609		1,156,645
5 f. c.	1,000	1,000		
Georgia	1,406,272	4,406,272		3,000,000
Florida	2,000	2,000		
Alabama	2,000	2,000		
Mississippi	200	200		
South Car.	3,317,400	3,317,400		
Texas	200,420	2,700,861		2,500,441
Arkansas	2,000	2,000		
Dist Col	553,776	553,776		
Virginia	6,874,000	6,874,000		
67 over 1865-66 of		1,489,208		
Currency	$21,208,714	26,731,185	5,522,471	
Gold	1,125,000	1,125,000	1,705,500	
W & T	42,000	241,467	118,087	
Pacific S.	$23,375,779	$30,702,808		
1865-66 of	1866-67 of	6,949		
			$7,439,108	

Allegheny Valley Railroad.

The Board of Managers have appointed the following gentlemen to their respective offices for the current year: John Ballentine, Secretary and Treasurer; A. T. Rowan, Auditor; Henry Blackstone, Superintendent; R. L. Brown, Assistant Superintendent; F. W. Mattheus, Chief Engineer. The first four named are reappointments. Mr. Ballentine has been the efficient Treasurer and Secretary for four years, and has shown himself to be a gentleman admirably adapted to the heavy responsibilities of his position. Messrs. Blackstone and Brown have been over two years on the road and are well known for their ability and urbane deportment in administration of their respective offices.

Mr. Rowan, formerly of the Fort Wayne Road, has been for some time in the service of the Allegheny Valley Road as book-keeper. In November of last year he was appointed to the Auditorship, which position he fills with great satisfaction to the officers of the company. The resignation of Franklin Wright, Esq., who has been for many years Chief Engineer of the company, rendered a new appointment necessary, and the company were fortunate in securing in their service a gentleman so capable of assuming the position. Mr. Martin was Mr. Wright's principal assistant in the construction of the new part of the line, and is thoroughly competent for the additional responsibility which has been placed upon him.

No single track railroad in the State is more complete and perfect in its construction than the Allegheny Valley Road, and Colonel Phillips, the energetic President, is determined that this superiority shall be carried out in all its appointments. The large building—formerly owned by Sellers & Co.—at the corner of Canal and Pike streets—has been purchased and will be at once remodeled, so as to adapt it for the offices of the company. A fourth story is to be added—which will give the building an imposing exterior, and will afford room for the passenger waiting rooms upon the lower floor.

In gathering these items we learn one other which, in these days of accidents by rail, is worthy of notice. During the twelve years in which trains have run over the Allegheny Valley Road, but a single accident has occurred to its cars resulting in injury to any passenger. About seven years ago two cars of the camp meeting train were thrown off the track, resulting in the death of a most estimable young lady, and slight injuries to several other persons. With this exception, and that of a gentleman who was hurt while reaching out of a window, by contact with a passing coal car, no passenger was ever injured upon the Allegheny Valley Railroad. A fact which speaks volumes for the prudence and safety with which it is managed.

Impeachment and After.

Although the impeachment has scarcely begun, speculations about the probable construction of Mr. Wade's Cabinet are freely indulged in. Mr. Dana, of the New York *Sun*, tries his hand thus:

> It is pretty clear that of the present Cabinet none would remain except Mr. Stanton. All the rest would have to pack their trunks for home without any great delay, and who would take their places? Let us propound the names of some gentlemen of the Republican party to whom this honor might fall under the circumstances supposed:

State	James W. Grimes, Iowa.
	P. Banks, Mass.
	John M. Reed, Penn.
Treasury	Freeman Clarke, N. Y.
	Samuel Hooper, Mass.
	J. Young Scammon, Ill.
Navy	Marshall O. Roberts, New York.
	Hannibal Hamlin, Me.
Post Office	Horace Greeley, N. Y.
	Andrew G. Curtin, Penn.
Interior	Jacob D. Cox, Ohio.
	A. J. Cresswell, Md.
	Carl Schurz, Mo.
Attorney General	James F. Wilson, Iowa.

This, we think, is a first rate list to make a Cabinet from; but if Mr. Wade should not be satisfied with it in every particular, we will gladly add a considerable number of other names on being requested to do so. We undertake to say, too, that a Republican Cabinet could not possibly be formed without including several of the gentlemen whom we have mentioned.

The Court of Impeachment.

The following table of Senators who form the High Court of Impeachment will prove valuable for reference:

REPUBLICANS.

Anthony, R. I.	Morrill, Me.
Cameron, Pa.	Morton, Ind.
Chandler, Mich.	Norton, Minn.
Conness, Cal.	Nye, Nevada.
Cole, Cal.	Patterson, N. H.
Corbett, Oregon.	Pomeroy, Kansas.
Cragin, N. H.	Ramsey, Minn.
Drake, Mo.	Ross, Kansas.
Edmunds, Vt.	Sherman, Ohio.
Ferry, Ct.	Sprague, R. I.
Fessenden, Me.	Stewart, Nevada.
Fowler, Tenn.	Sumner, Mass.
Frelinghuysen, N. J.	Thayer, Neb.
Grimes, Iowa.	Tipton, Neb.
Harlan, Iowa.	Trumbull, Ill.
Henderson, Mo.	Van Winkle, W. V.
Howard, Mich.	Wade, Ohio.
Howe, Wis.	Williams, Oregon.
Morgan, N. Y.	Wilson, Mass.
Morrill, Vt.	Yates, Ill.
Total, 34.	

DEMOCRATS.

Bayard, Del.	Hendricks, Ind.
Buckalew, Pa.	Johnson, Md.
Davis, Ky.	McCreery, Ky.
Dixon, Ct.	Patterson, Tenn.
Doolittle, Wis.	Saulsbury, Md.
Total, 10.	

A GREAT "skatorial" feat has been performed in Cincinnati by Mr. Eugene St. Clair. He has skated for twenty-four consecutive hours, without rest or sleep. The only time he ceased skating was yesterday morning, when he had a rest of twenty minutes to change his skates and put on braces. He commenced on Tuesday evening at 9:25 and achieved the task of making one hundred miles by 9:11 Wednesday morning. He subsisted only on crackers and chocolate, and occasionally smoked a cigar. The only time he showed any signs of fatigue was during the morning, when his eyes were considerably bloodshot, from the loss of sleep. At the close he said he was not in the least fatigued, except he felt rather dizzy, from constant skating. He was cool and calm, and would not allow any one to assist him in taking off his skates, or to escort him to the carriage in waiting at the door. When he stepped out into the street, thousands of people lined the sidewalks and greeted him with cheers. At the close of his feat he was presented, by the gentlemen present, with a purse containing one hundred and thirty dollars.

STATE NEWS.

The bar of Williamsport, Pa., celebrated the 22d of February by a grand banquet at the Herdic House.

The East Pennsylvania Railroad was chartered in 1856, and completed in 1859, at a cost of $1,100,000.

Lieutenant James A. Rothermel, a gallant young Philadelphian and a member of the 5th United States cavalry, accidentally and fatally shot himself on the 5th of February, at Fort Boise, Idaho Territory.

Ezra Williams, an engineer, and for twenty-four years mining superintendent of the Lackawanna Coal Company, fell down the Briggs shaft, near Scranton, Thursday, and was killed.

Among the patents issued from the United States Patent Office, for week ending February 18, 1868, we find one to T. M. Bradley, of Chestnut Level, Lancaster county, for an improvement in sewing machines.

Dan Rice's sacred cow is about to die. This cow and the bull which died in Michigan two years since, cost Col. Rice $2,000, and as is well known, were the only genuine Sacred Cattle ever exported from Hindostan. They were presented to our Consul, Dr. Huffnagle, by the Hindoo Chiefs, as a distinguished evidence of their gratitude for his professional services, and when his estate was sold after his death, came into Col. Rice's hands.

The Girard *Spectator* says: Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Noyes had a very narrow escape from being suffocated by smoke a few mornings since. The servant girl, after kindling a fire in the grate, took their infant son and left the room. Soon after a light blanket, hanging near the chimney, caught fire, and filled the room with a dense cloud of smoke. Mrs. Noyes in her unconscious struggles, consequent upon inhaling the stupefying vapor, threw her arms violently across her husband's face, and awoke him. He was just able to stagger to the window and throw it open. Had the child been left in the room it would undoubtedly have perished, and a few moments longer would have sealed the doom of its parents.

The Second United Presbyterian church of Mercer, will be opened for religious services on the 15th, or the third Sabbath of this month. D. R. Kerr, D.D., and Robert Gracy, D.D., of Pittsburgh, and Rev. Joseph Pressly, of Erie, are expected to conduct the services of the day and evening.

Horace Greeley's lecture in Titusville on Thursday evening netted $74 10, which was forwarded to the Relief Committee for the benefit of the sufferers by the recent disastrous fire at Pithole.

The Commissioners of Montgomery county have resolved to pay off some one hundred and twenty thousand dollars of the county bonds. At this rate Montgomery will soon be free from debt.

The finances of Lehigh county for the past year, foot up as follows: Receipts from all sources during the year, $290,022 29. Expenditures, $265,931 29. Balance in Treasurer's hands, $25,091 00. Outstanding taxes due the county for the years of 1866-67 and 1868 $24,951 91.

A recent historical paper relates that Wm. Penn had a prodigal son, and was forced to send him back to England. In order to raise funds to do so, he was compelled to sell his manor, called William Stadt, to Isaac Norris and William Trent for £850. It consisted of 7,000 acres, and is now where Norristown and Norriston townships are located.

Iron ore has lately been discovered on the Poor House Farm of Berks county. Messrs. Shaiter & Hertzog, of the Mount Penn Furnace, have just secured a ten years' lease for working the same, for which they are to pay a rental of $1,000 per annum. If more than 2,000 tons of ore are taken out by the lessees, an additional sum of fifty cents per ton must be paid. An act of Assembly is yet required to give the lease a binding force.

Lebanon county is nearly out of debt. The Auditors, in their statements of the county account, just published, say: "We find that the county is indebted to different individuals for temporary loans to the amount of $36,000, with interest up to April 1st, 1868, from which amount deduct the outstanding taxes, less the collections and collections to be allowed collectors, and the balance in the hands of the Treasurer for bounty purposes, and also the balance in the hands of the Treasurer for county purposes, which, after all the taxes are collected, would leave the real debt of the county about $2,500."

R. K. Scott, a native of Pennsylvania, Chief of the Freedmen's Bureau for South Carolina, is the prominent candidate for the gubernatorial nomination of the Republicans of that State.

It was reported Wednesday that one of the Philadelphia members of the Legislature was relieved of $1,500 by some of the "right fingered gentry."

Milo A. Townsend, of Beaver Falls, and A. J. Fetch, of Smith's Ferry, Beaver county, have been appointed Notaries Public, under a recent act of assembly.

Hon. Samuel McFarland, of Washington county, recently deceased, bequeathed twenty thousand dollars to the American Missionary Association, New York.

On Friday evening last a little son of James M. Reed, Esq., of Lockport Station, Westmoreland county, aged ten years, (grandson of Hon. John Covode,) while playing with some other children in the second story of his father's stable, rolled out of the door used for putting in hay, and fell to the ground, the fall fracturing both of his legs above the knees.

Samuel Klinefelter, a freight brakeman, running between Altoona and Pittsburgh, was seriously injured, on Friday evening last, at Mill Run Dump, by the the upsetting of a car which he was endeavoring to couple to a train. The cars came together with such force that one ran under the other and upset it. The car fell upon him, breaking one leg, and injuring him internally, it is feared, severely. He was taken to the Leonard House, Altoona, where his wounds were dressed. He is a married man and lives in Conemaugh.

The Harrisburg *Telegraph* says: The numerous friends of Colonel Elias J. Unger, favorably and well known as a conductor of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad for many years, will be pleased to learn that he has been tendered and accepted the position of Secretary and Treasurer of the Keystone Hotel Company. Colonel Unger deserves this recognition of his services, and we wish success to the enterprisers. As a conductor he was one of the most accommodating and polite, and we have no doubt he will give entire satisfaction in the new position he assumes.

Military Preparations in France.

On no other hypothesis than that the better prepared a nation is for immediate and stupendous war the more certain is it that that the condition will be peace, can we account for the frequent assurances that France desires peace and expects not war. If we are to believe correspondents of one of the most intelligent continental journals, military preparations are being urged forward with extraordinary rapidity in France. The National Guard Mobile is being formed with wonderful haste. "This," it adds, "is not the only indication of the anxiety of the government to be prepared for any contingency. The provisioning of the arsenals and the army clothing stores is vigorously going on. The deficiencies which were left behind by the administration of Marshal Randon will soon be supplied. No doubt the object is to secure peace by preparing for war. But if the old Roman adage be correct, it did not seem to have the same force as after that battle. If our magazines and arsenals were thus replenished, it is probable they were emptied prodigally to carry on the war in Mexico without being obliged to impose fresh burdens on the tax-payers. The security was so complete that a few months before the war in Germany Marshal Randon received orders to do away with even the cadres of the battalions and squadrons which were dissolved from motives of economy. The present war department has repaired all this, and is taking such vigorous and active steps that people are beginning to think they are not prompted by something that may happen in the remote future."

A Law Important to Manufacturers.

The following bill passed by the Legislature, and signed by Governor Geary, is of importance to our manufacturers and mechanics. The first and only section provides: "That the true intent and meaning of the eleventh section of an act entitled 'an act to provide for the reduction of the public debt,' approved April twenty-second, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, is hereby declared to be that a manufacturer or mechanic, not having a store or warehouse apart from his manufactory or workshop, for the purpose of vending goods, such manufacturer or mechanic, shall not be classified or required to pay the annual tax and license, as is now required, in relation to foreign dealers, and that an affidavit before an alderman or justice of the peace, or any person authorized by law to administer an oath or affirmation setting forth the fact that such manufacturer or mechanic has not a store or warehouse apart from his manufactory or workshop, shall be sufficient evidence to the appraiser or mercantile tax not to so classify said manufacturer or mechanic: Provided, That any person swearing falsely in relation to any matter provided for in this act, shall be deemed guilty of perjury, as if said oath had been taken in any legal proceeding."

GENERAL HANCOCK has written a letter in reply to that of General Grant revoking his order for the removal of certain members of the City Council of New Orleans, in which he repeats the reasons heretofore given for his action, but says he will promptly obey General Grant's orders relieving the Councilmen, though he thinks the public good will not thereby be advanced. The deposed officials have therefore been restored to their places, and Hancock retains his place, his threat to resign if General Grant interfered with his administration to the contrary notwithstanding.

BOTH branches of Congress have passed the bill restoring to market the lands along the line of the Pacific Railroad. It awaits the signature of the President to become a law. By it the alternate (even) sections reserved by the Government are again placed in the market. So good an opportunity for investment will doubtless attract a large emigration westward.

PERSONAL.

—The Memoirs of Talleyrand, which were to be published thirty years after his death, had become almost forgotten. M. Charles Colligny, in an article in the *Gazette des Etrangers*, calls attention to the fact that the period is now approaching its expiration, as the celebrated diplomatist died on the 17th of May, 1838. The will of Talleyrand contained the following curious passage: "My recollections, which have been terminated for some time past, and which I desire shall not be published until thirty years after my death, will explain to posterity my conduct during the revolutionary tempest."

—The Hub, already fully conscious of its superiority to the outside universe, is further puffed by Dickens. The novelist declares that Boston has society, hotels, suburbs, culture and appreciation beyond those of any other American city, and he finds no difficulty in getting the Bostonians to believe him. The *Post* of that supreme municipality says Dickens "swears by Boston and at most other cities." He intends being there every possible minute until he takes ship for home.

—The Hon. Richard H. Bayard, formerly a United States Senator from Delaware, but several years past a resident of Philadelphia, died at his residence in Philadelphia, on Wednesday, aged seventy-two. He was the son of the elder James A. Bayard, an eminent citizen of Delaware in the early part of the present century, and was born at Wilmington. He was educated at Princeton College, and admitted to practice at the bar, and subsequently took an active part in politics as a Whig. He was United States Senator from Delaware from 1836 to 1839, and again from 1841 to 1845. He was also Minister Resident of the United States in Belgium. Of late years he has lived in retirement, taking no active part in politics.

—The second instalment of the life of General Grant by his father, appears in this week's *Ledger*, from which we extract the following: "It was said of him that while at West Point he was not one who took pains to make himself popular, but that all the boys liked him. I believe he went by the name of 'Uncle Sam,' on account of his initials, 'U. S.' A superstitious person might also think there was something Providential about these significant initials being stuck on to him, for they were not given to him at his christening. When the question arose after his birth what he should be called, his mother and one of his aunts proposed Albert, for Albert Gallatin; another aunt proposed Theodore; his grandfather proposed Hiram, because Hiram Ulysses was a handsome name. His grandmother—grandmother by courtesy—that is, his mother's stepmother—was a great student of history, and had an enthusiastic admiration for the ancient commander Ulysses; and she urged that the babe should be named Ulysses. I seconded that, and he was christened Hiram Ulysses; but he was always called by the latter name, and he himself preferred, when he got old enough to know about it. But Mr. Hamer, knowing Mrs. Grant's name was Simpson, and that we had a relative named Simpson, managed to get the matter a little mixed in making the nomination, and sent the name Ulysses S. Grant, instead of Hiram Ulysses Grant. My son tried in vain, afterward, to get it set right by the authorities; and I suppose he is now content with his name as it stands."

—A Paris letter, speaking of the rage on gaming, says: But, by way of exception to the general rule, much has been said about the losses of Khalil Bey, a former Turkish ambassador, who, after several week's experience, lost twelve hundred thousand francs. On account of that, he sold his pictures—a charming modern collection. The prices obtained were not very good, but that fact did not delay the sale of two or three other modern collections. One of them belonged to Demidoff, the celebrated Russian owner of the malachite mines and the palace of San Donato near Florence; the bearer of the title of Prince given by the ex-Duke of Tuscany, and formerly husband of the Princess of Mathilde, first cousin of the Emperor Napoleon, and daughter of Jerome Napoleon, who was divorced from Miss Patterson.

—When Sam Houston was President of the Texas Republic, its Congress objected to his off-hand, blunt speeches, and intimated that it would be both convenient and respectful for him to put his addresses in writing. The next time he appeared in the chamber, he bore a roll of paper, tied with ribbon, and labelled in large letters. He spoke with this roll in his hand, waving it gracefully in the air, occasionally, and when he had done handed it, with a bow, to the clerk, and stalked out of the h